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Original Poetry.

Written for the Saturday Evening Post

Be Happy Now.

Be happy now.
For now the joy of life is thine.
Thy youthful stars unclouded shine
Upon thy brow.

Now hope is bright,
And pleasure in her rich array,
Comes smiling round thy sunny way,
With joy delight.

Be happy now
While thou art lovely young and fair
While yet thy Springtime's balmy air,
Doth fan thy brow.

Yes happy be,
While to thy grace and loveliness,
To fondle round thee and caress,
Love bends the knee.

While ev'ry door,
That blooms doth seem to bloom for thee,
Thy sister are joy and purity
From base to base

Be happy now
And if love comes to touch thy heart,
Then must not yield unto his art,
For bright art thou.

Be gay, be glad,
Think not of sighs, of tears, of grief,
Talk not of Love, to unbelief
Will make thee sad.

Be happy now,
O! that thou couldst be ever so,
Free from the weariness and woe,
Life doth allow.

C. M. GARBER.

Written for the Saturday Evening Post

Wisconsin.

Fair are thy skies as those of Italy,
Richer than Tempe's thy profile soil,
Which yields the hardy settler for his toil
A rich reward. Oh, I have traversed thee
From north to south, from farthest east to west,
And rested on thy beauties fair and blest
Thy pinnies glowing in their summer bees,
When myriad flowers adorn thy verdant breast.
Awe struck and wondering in thy shades I, or stood
Like Adam when in Eden's bowers he broke
The reign of ancient silence, and awoke
Far sounding echoes in the solitude
There's a grandeur in those woods, and on the lake
That hurls its tale against thy eastern shore,
When the north wind its sleeping waves awake
To fright the landsman with their ceaseless roar
And yet sublime are thy bright rivers, gushing
Afar within the wilderness, where none
Have ever seen the place of their outrushing;
The little springs from whence those streams begin
And beautiful are those sweet lakes that lie
Sleeping within the wilderness's fair dominion
Upon whose bosom ne'er the barries fly.
The wild duck stoops to fresh his wearied pinion
But yet, Wisconsin, not for these alone
Is art my heart beats warm and proud for thee,
But for the thought to which my heart is prone,
Of what thy future destiny may be
How under thy wood, and all thy grassy over
Shall spring a race of freemen, men of them
That will of old England's haughty caste, and tone
The brightest jewel from her diadem.

E. YOUNG.

Southport, W. T.

Original Tales.

Written for the Saturday Evening Post

The Brothers of the Coast.

BY J. HILLS JENNINGS,
AUTHOR OF THE WILMA VALLEY, ETC.

In a Experience d one hale de sensations be a fat character des guerres et de guerre, et grand on les sensations d'estate pour exciter le unes et multiplier les ten. VOLNEY.

The fifteenth century was pregnant with peril to the people living in Maracaybo, Campeachy, Vera Cruz, Porto Bello, Carthagena, and many towns on the coasts of the South Sea. Many were the daring deeds which the adventurous Buccaneers† perpetrated upon these towns, and which adventurers are recounted to this day by the descendants of those sanguine men. Referring the reader to Raynell's History of Europe for an account of these singular men, we will continue our account of one whose extraordinary feats would furnish—were they all known—a novel quite a thrilling as it frames colds from the imagination.

The sea was as calm and glassy as a mirror. Far down in the chrystal waters could be seen the various fishes, swimming after their prey; and at places where the water was not so deep, were visible the beautiful shells, sparkling in the sun's rays, and appearing of a variety of gaudy tints. The large white sails were calling over the glassy surface, apparently with no other intention than that of the amusement of gazing upon the calm surface beneath them, and seeing the reflection of themselves. A small boat slowly glided through the waters; it held twenty-five men, only a very small number of whom were at the oars, the rest being totally inactive, but listlessly gazing into the waters and vacantly humming a tune, or whistling a stave of some rude buccaneerian ditty which had often served to enliven many a moment, which would otherwise have been tedious indeed. The man who stood at the helm was at least five feet ten inches in stature, and quite youthful in his appearance. His limbs were well knit, muscular and sinewy, his skin was fair, his hair sandy and silky, and his whiskers red. His features were well moulded, and indicated nothing of an atrocious nature in his character, this eyes were large, prominent, blue, and unceremoniously fine and expressive, and if any thing mistrusted—he be now stood—a disposition prone to partiality rather than cruelty. His forehead was high and expansive, and plainly indicated that deep intellectual sagacity which so often extricated him and his men from the most formidable and threatening difficulties. This young man was Henry Morgan, who in attentions—but that will form the burden of our sketch. The young Buccaneer leaned lazily against the helm and with his eyes gazing languidly into the water, he sang a ditty whose amatorialic language plainly indicated that the singer had learned it among society far superior to that in which he now mingled. Morgan in truth belonged to a family nobly connected, but acquiring habits of gambling and prodigality, he soon dissipated the money left to him at the death of his parent, and then getting into the clutches of the Shylocks, he was necessitated to fly his country—the principality of Wales—as under to escape the horrors of a prison. Morgan had heard glowing accounts of the immense wealth of the El Dorado; he had heard recitals of the Spaniard's cruelty, till his blood chilled, and living of an adventurous and bold nature, he was not long in concluding to seek the island; and under the delusion that by plundering the Spaniard, the Lord would smile upon him and shower wealth upon him, he sailed for the island of Mahon where he arrived, full of spirit and expectation, but empty in purse.

He soon found men as poor and reckless as himself—men who had joined the Spaniards and hoped their riches; and it was not long before a cutter on the coast was the rendezvous of Morgan and his twenty-five men. The morning of the day in which we introduce them, they met for the last time in the cutter, and by unanimous consent chose Henry Morgan captain. They all went through the form of a trouble with drawing up by Morgan the principal features of which were the articles. That they would assist each other as long as life lasted. That they would keep the cutter a profound secret. That they would obey Morgan, whatsoever might be his commands. That the wealth taken should be divided into twenty-six shares, two of which should fall to Morgan. Several other minor articles were in the instrument, and death in its most terrific form awaited him who broke an article. Having arranged things to their satisfaction, they betook themselves to their small boat, each man armed with a musket, a short sword and two pistols.

But two men pulled at the oars—the rest hung around either looking into the clear water or perhaps forming vivid pictures of wealth and grandeur in their imaginations. Morgan continued to hum his song, with his eyes bent upon the clear water, and his hand grasping the helm. A man stood at the bow of the boat, sweeping the horizon with a spy-glass, but in such a slow and lazy manner, as indicated that he had no hopes of discovering any thing. As he swept in a western direction, he suddenly erected his form, gazed ardently a moment, and then taking the glass from his eye, he emphatically slapped his hand against his thigh, while his features suddenly assumed a contending degree of animation.

"What!" exclaimed Morgan, his countenance silence assuming a determined expression.

"Come and look," said the man.

In a moment Morgan's eye was to the glass, he looked a moment, and placing the glass in the man's hand exclaimed,

"Now boys, we will soon see which of you are the bold."

Instantly there was a bustle, and the countenance of each man presented a very contrasting appearance to what it did a moment before.

"Ho! there is another, and another, and now they have in sight—a fleet of galleons!" exclaimed the man who was now looking.

"Then let us dip water and show 'em the white feather," said one.

"No let us get nearer and look at the cut of their jibs," said another.

"By all the wealth of those islands! there is the vice-admiral of the fleet himself," exclaimed an old "salt" as he handed Morgan the glass.

"You are right and *this* will we attack," said Morgan firmly.

Several of the men exchanged glances and one or two blanched with fear as they reflected, that to attack a vessel armed would be instant destruction. The principal number being as careless of life as their captain, signified their willingness with joy.

"Hurra!" yelled an old sailor who had heard the music of cannons before. "Hurra! now we shall be rich! grasp your weapons boys, and all you got to do is just stumble along after Ben and young Morgan—haint it so old captin!"

Morgan gazed upon the old *salt* with pride as he exclaimed,

"Boys, he who follows old Ben here will reap glory and wealth—now pull for the galleons—for there, now the cute the water, and wealth is ours!" And in a gay and confident voice Morgan broke out into a well known nautical song—each man chimed in, and one would imagine them a party of pleasure from the gallroons, rather than a desperate party to attack them.

"Boys," explaimed Morgan as they began to approximate the fleet sufficiently to see the vice-admirals ship with the naked eye.

"I wish you all to shout with the precision of experienced riflemen—and mind ye, shoot directly in the port holes, and I'll wager my part of the booty, that ye can disable the gunners."

The small boat rapidly approached the large galleon, when a large volume of smoke belched from her side, and the ball sang over their heads. The Spaniards had notified the advance of the boat for some time, but had not anticipated the nature of the visit; but now for the first time, they guessed their motive, and this was the first welcome. Several of Morgan's men as they witnessed this very much reception began to urge a return. Morgan seized an auger and bored several holes in the bottom of the boat.

"Now," he yelled as his eyes shot fire, "ye have all to gain that vessel in less than one hour or else perish—much use that man who dare to bail out, will I shoot."

And the desperate young man grasped a pistol cocked it, and stood ready to put his threat into execution should any one offer to bail out. The water rushed into the boat, and as a demiric vessel, the men seized the oars, and the light boat shot forward toward the galleon. The pirates yelled and prepared the muskets, while the deep tone of the cannon continually reached them, but invariably the balls flew over their heads. This gave the men courage, and with wild cheers they shot forward. They soon reached within musket shot of the vice-admiral's galleon, and instantly they poured in a destructive charge of musket balls, which mostly entering the port holes, doubled the gunners.

But the boat was rapidly sinking; the men were already up to their knees in water, while the rush through the auger holes continued with unabated fury. They must instantly board or they would perish. With a yell more deafening still they shot forward, gained the vessel's side, and as the terrified Spaniards retreated below, they gained the deck of the vessel. The Spaniards now commenced a warfare with muskets and pistols, which the pirates returned it with ardor, and while they were battling thus, Morgan sought the great cabin where he found the vice-admiral surrounded by all of his officers. Nothing daunted, he strode into the cabin, pushing the officers at one side, and presenting a pistol to the admiral's breast, he demanded him to yield. The admiral with the pusillanimity of his countrymen handed Morgan his sword, which example was followed by all of the officers. In half an hour Morgan was in possession of the galleon. He now turned the cannons against the other galleons whose cannons were now lessening away, and their balls were cutting his rigging. After exchanging several broadsides the other galleons hoisted sail—the wind having now raised—and soon they were out of sight.

Morgan placed the admiral, his officers and men in small boats, and giving them a compass and provisions he set them adrift. Then steering for the island of Madera he soon moored the ship before the big cavern, where all their wealth was secreted. The news of Morgan's success soon spread, and it was not a great while before several hundred adventurers came and offered the young pirate their services. These were gladly accepted for already was the ambitious Morgan planning an enterprise of a daring nature, and men he must have to succeed.

With three hundred as brave and reckless men as he could wish, Morgan left the island of Jamaica and sailed south. His intentions he kept secret, but many were the knowing winks the oldest sailors exchanged, as they screwed up their mouths, nodded their heads, and told the men that they might soon look out for breakers. The ship danced rapidly forward and in time came in sight of the island of Panama. Morgan summoned all his men on deck, where he harangued them for half an hour, and then he bound them by an oath to kill any one of their number who might evince the least signs of cowardice.

"Now, boys," finished Morgan, "I am going to attack Porto Bello, and we must fade it, for there are riches immeasurable and enough pretty girls to make you all sweet!"

The men flourished their sword, and desired to be led forward. Morgan sailed directly for the town, and so unexpected was his visit, and with such fury did he and his men fall, that they soon drove the inhabitants with their most valuable effects into the citadel, and then he took possession of the town. But half of the victory was gained. The principal inhabitants had retreated to the citadel and armed with the to the bulk of their wealth.

The citadel was uncommonly strong, and the garrison who commanded it was an old soldier who understood the business of fighting. The pirate had too much so much time in taking the city, that the garrison had time to put the citadel in a posture of defence, and now the cannons scattered grape shot so plentifully among them that they were necessitated to fall back, unable to reach it with their scaling ladders.

"Men we must have this castle," cried Morgan. "I learn that all the plate of the church has been carried there, and that you know is worth having."

"We must have the plate" cried the men.

"Now I have it," said Morgan. "Bring forth all the priests and pretty nuns of the town."

It was not long before every priest and nun in the town were paraded before Morgan.

"We will operate upon their veneration," said the captain. "Let us make each nun and priest plant a scaling ladder against the fortress." This was an ingenious thought, and proved Morgan's knowledge of human nature, but not of the old Governor's. The priests and nuns were marched forward toward the fortress with their scaling ladders upon their shoulders, but as soon as they arrived within a proper distance, the resolute old Governor pointed forth a volley among them which mowed them down by hundreds. The rest threw down their ladders and fled. Morgan bit his under lip till the blood came. He saw that he had a man to deal with, who possessed the true soldier's spirit. Although Morgan was thwarted, he was no way daunted; with his characteristic energy and decision, he began to cast around him for some plan to carry the fortress. While he was reflecting upon the matter, a man made his appearance with the information, that the hind part of the fortress had no cannon to guard it, but that a morass rendered it unsafe to walk there.

"We will walk upon it or sink," said Morgan. Ordering a number of men to keep up a firing in front, Morgan, followed by the bulk of his army, took a circuitous route, and came upon the fortress from behind. After waiting knee deep through the morass, they reached the walls of the fortress, placed their scaling ladders against it, and in a few moments more Morgan followed closely by his men were in the fort. An old grey headed man attacked Morgan with fury, but the Englishman coolly warded off his strokes, and watching a favorable opportunity disarmed his antagonist. Suspecting his antagonist to be the brave old Governor, Morgan ordered his men to harm him not, but to see that he went his way in peace.

In this fortress Morgan found—besides a vast quantity of rich merchandise—bullion and specie to the amount of one hundred thousand pounds sterling.* The men were ordered to carry the booty to the ship, and when they had secured everything, Morgan made the goodly citizens a speech. He bestowed many promises upon them for the kind reception which they had given him, and begged them that they would pay them another visit at some early period. Morgan then set out and arrived safe at the Island of Jamaica with his booty.

There are but few persons who would venture again upon perils after accumulating so much, but not so Henry Morgan. Flushed with his victories, he determined to venture on a still greater enterprise, and for that purpose he laid out his money and procured fifteen vessels, in which he placed nine hundred and sixty men—all brave as lions and daring as fiends—men upon repairing their decayed fortunes or in meeting death. With this fleet Henry Morgan left the Island of Jamaica. Learning that two pirates, De Banco and Lolonois with several hundred men, had attempted to plunder the rich town of Maracaybo without success, he determined to try his fortunes before the place, and with that view he steered for the gulf of Venezuela. He soon entered the gulf, a narrow neck intersects the gulf and the lake of Maracaybo, and on this neck was a well constructed with cannon. Here a desperate battle commenced between two vessels and the fort, but while some of the vessels were occupying the attention of those in the fort, Morgan and several hundred of his bravest men landed, gained the fort in the rear, scaled it, and soon put every person to the sword. He immediately sailed down the lake and took possession of the town, but found it vacated. Knowing that the citizens would not be very far off, Morgan ordered a detachment to scour the adjoining woods, where they discovered the citizens. After taking from them immense wealth, they were released from bondage, and Morgan moved across the lake to Gibralter. He soon took possession of this town, but as usual, found that the inhabitant had secreted their wealth. He proceeded to summary measures to extort from them their secret, when several men leaped from a small boat, and one of them presented to him a letter, informing him that three large Spanish men of war lay at the small neck communicating the lake and the gulf. Morgan tore open the letter and read as follows:†

I am come to dispute your passage out of the lake and I have the means of doing it. Nevertheless if you will submit to surrender with honorable, all the booty and prisoners you have taken, I will offer no fire, and promise to return to your own country without trouble or molestation. But if you reject this offer, or hesitate to comply I will attack you. Spaniards are known to be well endowed with courage and valor. Maracaybo, will put every man of you to the sword. The final determination. Be prudent, therefore and let me have your answer by an unguarded return. I have with me very good troops, who desire nothing more ardently than to revenge on you and your people, all the cruelties and depredations which you have committed upon the Spanish nation in America.

DON ALONZO DEL CANTO.

Upon reading this, even the bold Morgan was troubled. In truth he was in no little danger. His condition was now desperate indeed; but making the most of the matter, he kept it a secret from his men, and wrote back to the Spanish commander, very coolly wishing to know what ransom he would give for the city of Maracaybo. The bearer returned, and the Admiral's answer was couched in the same terms as his former letter—that if he submitted, his life would be spared and his freedom would be given him,—but otherwise, he and his men would be put to the sword. Morgan now called together his followers. They gathered around him in a dense mass eagerly awaiting the issue.

"My men," said Morgan, "the Spanish Admiral, with three men of war, is now at the entrance of the lake. He demands of you a return of your booty, or else he declares he will put you all to the sword. Now what do you say, my men? Are you willing to yield up that which you have earned at so much expense, or will you follow your Captain and rush to instant death?"

With a universal shout, the men cried that they would rather die rich than live poor. But many a cheek blanched as they heard this news,—still so much reliance did the men place upon Morgan's bravery and sagacity, that they determined to risk a fight even if the odds was so fearfully against them. Knowing the danger he would risk and the disadvantages he would labor under, in fighting the men of war, Morgan still tried to compromise the matter, but the inflexible Admiral adhered to his words, and nothing else would do.

"Thus," said Morgan, "if Don Alonzo will not let us pass, I will find means to pass without his permission."

Morgan instantly summoned every man to his presence, and made a division of the spoil that each man might have his own to take care of. He now procured one of the vessels which he had captured from the enemy, and filling it with combustible matter, he started it forward, while he followed it with his whole fleet. The Spaniards were caught by the trap. The bold pirates grappled two ships, and then set fire to the fire-ship; the Admiral's and one other ship were burnt to the water edge, and in the meantime Morgan poured in such a destructive fire into the other, that she was soon forced to strike. Morgan sailed out of the Gulf with colors flying and drums beating, and soon landed at Jamaica, his old residence.

Dispersing of his plunder at Port Royal, he at once made preparations for a still larger undertaking. With a yet greater number of vessels, and well filled with men, Morgan again left the island, and steered once more for the isle of Panama. The city of Panama was then one of the most wealthy cities in that country; and here it was that the pirate anticipated promising his most splendid booty. The pirate touched at the isle of St. Catharine which he soon captured, where he procured a full supply of naval and military stores, and being soon armed and equipped, he steered for the river Chagre, the only channel which could conduct him to Panama. A strong castle stood at the mouth of this river, built upon a high rock and defended by an excellent garrison. The fort was built of huge logs, and the roof was thatched with straw,—but still so high did the fort stand from the ground, and such an advantage did the enemies have over him, that Morgan, after several days ineffectual fighting, began to fear that he could never capture it. Desperate indeed did those pirates fight, and many were the expedients which they tried, to gain the fort, but so far, nothing had been accomplished toward its consummation.

While Morgan was superintending some cannon, an arrow, shot from the fort, entered a man's eye. The pirate captain drew out the arrow from the wound, and ever ready at any expedient, he wrapped some tow around it, dipped in brimstone, and placing the arrow in a musket, he discharged it toward the fort. Good fortune often attends the wicked,—as if guided by some potent and invisible hand, the arrow fell upon the thatched roof, and in a moment the whole roof was in a blaze. The utmost consternation soon spread in the garrison lest the magazine should blow up, and so frightened were the soldiers that they deserted the fort. During this consternation Morgan and his men gained the top of the rock, and met the Governor at the head of a few resolute men, who all died like true soldiers, with their swords in their hands. The fort was burned to the ground. The principal obstruction being now removed, Morgan continued his course up the river to Cruces, and landing, he marched across the island for Panama.

Upon a spacious plain near the city, called the Savannah, Morgan came in view of an army equal in size to his own, drawn up in battle array, and awaiting his approach. Here a desperate battle ensued, and for a long while it was doubtful upon which standard victory would perch. The Spaniards were fighting for their homes and families, and the pirates having encountered much, were equally determined on victory. The plain was heaped with the slain of both parties, while blood ran off in streams from the battle ground. The Spaniards finally gave way, and fled to the city, and Morgan entered the city of Panama, and took possession of it; he was many days in pillaging it.

Here the tender heart of Henry Morgan was touched with love. He became enamored of a Spanish beauty, and at once determined upon creating a reciprocity of sentiment, when he would marry her; but the beauty treated his professions with contumely, and derided his vows. Thus fired the proud Englishman; he was not used to being vanquished, and he was determined not to be defeated even in affairs of the heart. Imagining perhaps that solitary confinement would break down the spirit of the proud beauty,—he accordingly incarcerated her in a cell, where the resolute creature made an attempt to stab herself with a poignard, but the Englishman caught the uplifted arm.

For several days Morgan tarried, trying to force the Spanish beauty to yield. In the meantime his men had plundered and burned the town now impotent to return, imagining a strange indeed that he could be delayed so long on account of a woman.

"Cut her throat and come along Captain," said the man who had been deputied to see Morgan and enquire the reason of his long delay.

"No, I cannot live without her," said Morgan. The old pirate threw his tongue into his cheek and rolled up his eyes, not perhaps imagining such a passion as love.

"Then take her along with you," suggested the pirate.

"That must do; if she does not consent to go, I shall not force her. I love her too much to adopt any summary means to coerce her into love," said Morgan, who forgot that he had her in a dungeon. The old sailor closed one eye, and with the other leered at his captain in a very peculiar manner. Morgan understood his meaning and drove him away from his presence. For several days longer the Englishman tarried, trying every art he could think of to induce the Spanish beauty to love him, but she proved inexorable and finally the men began to complain a kindly of inactivity, that he was necessitated to abandon the girl, and march back to Cruces. They found the vessels as they had left them, and embarking they set out for Jamaica, where they arrived in good health and divided their booty. Although there were so many to divide it among, still Morgan's share so said to have amounted to one hundred thousand pounds sterling. Morgan now thought himself wealthy enough to remove the trade,—and accordingly he sold all of his vessels and dispersed his men. The name of Henry Morgan was not potent, so true is that adage that "riches commands respect." He at once became a man of note in the best society; and many a brilliant eye gazed into his, as he recounted in glowing colors the hard battles and narrow escapes which he had encountered in gaining his wealth. The romantic tales of Henry Morgan soon reached the ear of that romantic prince of pleasure, Charles II. who sent for the hero. Morgan—as great an adept at playing the courtier as the hero—soon ingratiated himself into the heart of the King, who knighted him, and then the cup of Morgan was filled to the brim. With Henry Morgan expired the last of *The Brothers of the Coast.*

* Vide Hist. Buccaneers, p. II. b. vi.

† This is the letter verbatim

† These were his words

The Vinegary.

I'll pull a bunch of lads and flowers,
And tie a ribbon round them,
If you'll but think in your lonely hours,
Of the sweet little girl that bound them

I'll call the earliest that put forth,
And those that last the longest,
And buds that boast the fairest birth,
Shall cling to the stem that's strongest

I've run about the garden walks,
And searched among the dew, sir,
These fragrant flowers, these tender stalks,
I've plucked them all for you, sir.

So here's your bunch of lads and flowers,
And here's the ribbon round them,
And here in these your saddened hours,
Is the sweet little girl that bound them

For a passage of eloquence, read the appeal of Charity; the golden mouth of Chrysostom never from the pulpit uttered his sacred message in a sweeter or more St. Paul like strain. There is the greatest beauty and the gravest power.

Charity.

Sweet Charity! thou of the kindest voice,
Of lightest hand, of softest—meekest eye,
And gentlest footstep, making but the place
Of a good angel's poison-floating by.
Go forth! but not to dwellings where the sigh
Of poverty and wretchedness is heard
Not to the hovel, nor the human sty
Where conscience, O! how lovingly, is seared,
Where Heaven is scarcely known, and Hell but little feared.

Sweet Spirit, go not there. There thou hast been,
And seen, nor pity nor relief bestowed
By woman's eye, nor by the hand of men,
On them who bear such miserable load
What votary hast Thou, at their abode?
What kind heart brings its fearful offering there,
And, grieved that 'tis no more, lifts up to God
Its humble, earnest, holy, secret prayer.
Revealed and the low and vile, in water's midnight air?

Go to the rich, the gay, and the secure.
Hold be thy step, and heavy be the hand.
Knock loud and long, at Fashion's partial door.
And swell thy voice to terrors bold command
And, be who holds upon extortion's sand,
He of the purple and the linen fine.
Drunk of widow's stock and orphan's land,
Shall shudder to turn from his saturated wine,
And feel, that to do well, his all he should resign

Go to the lovely, not in righing smiles,
At which the touchiest feel might smiling sigh.
—Neither let freaks her follies, and her aches
With the stern beauty of religion's eye.
Teach her the tear of grief—of shame to dry,
To drop on frailty meek compassion's balm.
To do right—to feel aright—to try
Her energy, hateful pursuits first to calm;
Then shed upon her soul, not on her face thy charm

Go to you Pharisee—the heartless wretch,
That prates of holiness, and lusts for sin.
Of faults of others, ever on the stretch,
All gone without and not one glance within:
And worse, much worse, not one kind wish to win
A sunner back—but to deter, betray.
And punish. Go and tell him to begin
Anew—and point him to salvation's way,
Thy errand is to him, and thou art his to pray

Touch not these gold, but touch—Thou canst—their heart
For there be many, who, with open purse
Will greet thee in that market place, their mart
Of vanity, ambition, or something worse:
Unkind and selfish—these may be the curse
—Thy money parted with thee." Learn thou then,
Sweet Charity! that kindness to disburse—
And Self's deep deadly current strong to stem;
A sigh shall win a pearl—a tear, a diadem

How honored are the feet, Thy footsteps stray
From gilded paths, and seek a grassgrown track
Through shades impervious to the gaze of day;
Onward flies light, a form that turns not back
At sight of chasms no current never stack
Quiet and bold, and sure the errand speeds.
Now doth the lonely dwell a blessing lack—
To sorrow, joy—to anguish, peace succeeds,
The eye no longer weeps, the heart no longer bleeds

A mingling of playfulness, of colloquial familiarity not unlike the mirth of Hallock or Holmes is one of Brainard's characteristics. One, among so many, abounding in this species of grace is

Salmon River.

'Tis a sweet stream—and so, 'tis true, are all
That undistributed, save by the harmless brawl
Of some rapid or slight waterfall.
Pursue thee way
By mossy bank and darkly waving wood.
By rock, that since the deluge stand has stood,
Shooting to sun and moon their creeping flood
By night and by day

But yet there—something in its humble track,
Something in its pure wave and sloping bank
Where the deer quailed, and the young fawn drank
With unscared look
There's much in its wild history, that means
With all that's superstitious—and that seems
To match our fancy and echo our dreams.
In that small brook

Have has been upon its peaceful plain,
And blood has dropped there, like the drops of rain.
The corn grown over the dead grave of the slain
And many a quiver,
Filled from the reeds that grew on yonder hill
Has spent itself in carnage. Now 'tis still
And a hurling plough begs off their cudels fill
From Salmon River

Here, say old men, the Indian Magi made
Their spells by moonlight, or beneath the shade
That shrouded sequestered rock, or dark'ning glade.
Or tangled dell.
Here Philip came, and Miantonomo,
And asked about their fortunes long ago
As Saul to Endor, that her witch might show
Old Samuel

And here the black fox raved, that howled and shook
His thick hair in the hunters, by the brook
Where they pursued their game, and him mistook
For earthly fox.
Thinking to chase him like a shaggy bear,
And his soft pelts stripped and dressed, to wear,
Or lay a trap, and from his quiver bar
Transfixed him to a fast.

Such are the tales they tell. 'Tis hard to rhyme
About a little and unnoticed stream.
That few have heard of—but it is a theme
I chance to love;
And one day I may tune my tuneless reed,
And wander to the note of many a deed
Done on the river—which, if there be need,
I'll try to cause.

We cannot open this volume any where amiss. Here is a verse sounding and sonorous as the tread of the midnight soldiery it celebrates.

That silent moonlight march to Bunker Hill.
With quicks, and sounds, bold hearts and ready hands.
That Spartan step adjust their flaxes—that still
Hushed, solemn music of the heart, commands.
More than the trumpet's echo—to the drill
That thoughts of well-loved homes, and streams and lands.
Awaken when men go into the fight.
As did the men at Bunker Hill that night

We might quote more and more without exhausting the different kinds of verse in this volume. There are songs of surpassing beauty, patriotic legends and stories, stanzas, merry and sad, strains patriotic and domestic, "a feast of nectared sweets where no crude surfeit reigns." Over all, circulating in every line, is the unapproachable charm, save where a happy genius has bestowed it, of NATURALNESS. Brainard is essentially a poet born, as Patrick Henry was an orator, and in other points of their character, perhaps there was a resemblance. The Redoubtable of a part of their lives is identical. They may both be described as Brainard was, "one of those men who love to lie on their backs and see what they can think." Of both, may we as Americans be honest enthusiasts, without being ashamed of it. In these days when the art of inventing reputation by the currency of a too facile press, is daily practised, and inferior authors enable themselves into notoriety by mutual puffery and name their fame by carefully bestowing an article here and another there; executing a friendly notice in this quarter and a satire equally effective and well understood in another; when many are built up upon imitation and get possession of the public ear for awhile, till the public get to be familiar with their originals; in such times of eager assumption and unmerited praise we recommend the purity and nature of Brainard to the warmest love of all honest admirers of genuine poetry.

Heads Up.

"I bet you my head against your hat of Henry Clay, then," said a disputant once to Dan Marble. "The odds are in your favor," replied Dan, "for my head is plaster of paris, and yours is only wool." "The man's name was Wood. "I don't care," said the first speaker, "my head is *solid*, and your head is *cracked*." "You're wrong again," said Dan, "the best is not cracked, for it's Clay" although it is still plaster of paris, and my head is more solid than yours, for it's *Marble!*

From the Lady's Companion for January, 1842.

Caroline Renton.

A Tale of the Revolution.

BY ROBERT HAMILTON.

Caroline Renton was the daughter of one of that hardy race of men who voluntarily renouncing their homes and joining the ranks of independence, chose to suffer every hardship and danger to emancipate their native land from the yoke of tyranny. He was a native of the State of New York, and had inherited from his father an estate of two hundred acres, on which, by industry and economy, he enjoyed all the comforts of life that a contented and unambitious spirit requires.

At the age of twenty-five, he married the daughter of a neighboring farmer, by whom he had the heroine of our story, no only child, remarkable for her beauty and intellect. With few advantages of education, for in those days of America, scholastic instruction was not to be obtained at almost any price in the rural districts of the Union, it was not to be wondered at if an individual possessing the rudiments of a plain education, was regarded by her less fortunate neighbors with a feeling of respect—such was the case with Caroline. Her father had been educated at one of the few seminaries then in New York by his parents, who intended him to follow one of the learned professions, but Edward Renton knew and felt that true independence

"Lord of the lone heart and eagle eye,"

was to be found only in the healthy and honest occupation of an American farmer, so returning to his home on the completion of his studies, he devoted his time and exertions to the improvement of the farm to which, at his father's death succeeding and marrying, as we have said, he became the father of Caroline, whose mind he carefully and assiduously cultivated. As she progressed in years, she also did in beauty and intelligence; and a livelier maiden inhaled not the breezes of her native mountains. The symmetry of her form was faultless, and her features were cast in the mould of perfection. She had acquired assume the country swains the title of "The Forest Rose," and well she deserved it, for her mind was as pure as the fragrance of that flower, and her cheek was its compeer in ruddiness. At the age of ten she was by death deprived of her mother, and because at once the sole conductor of the household arrangements. Initiated thus young in the duties of home, removed far from the enervating and hollow society of cities, where the female mind is ever more or less impregnated with deceit and frivolity, she grew up in the midst of her native forests, a flower of beauty and of worth. When she had reached the age of fifteen, the flame of independence, which so long had been smouldering in the breast of Freeman, burst into a flame trump the sermons on the mount to no poor ones of clay

peak to peak flew the tidings that a world had rent the shackles of despotism, and that the banner was given to the breeze under which stout hearts had rallied resolved to die rather than live the servile menials of a foreign sway. Edward Renton was therefore among the first who flew to enrol himself in the patriot army—much as he loved his Caroline, he loved his country more, and shouldering his rifle and bidding home and kindred adieu, he sought the American camp at Cambridge, and enrolled himself as a soldier of his country.

We shall now for a time lose all sight of the patriot, for during seven years he shared in most of the conflicts and dangers of the Revolution. Left in sole possession of the farm, Caroline had sufficient to occupy her attention, and so assiduous was she in her management, that every thing was so remarkable for its correctness, though her father himself had been present. The plough was seen preparing the ground at the earliest visit of spring—summer smiled not on lovelier fields, and autumn crowned none with richer treasures, and when the heavy winter had told the husbandman to abandon his labors, Caroline was to be found sitting by her blazing hearth, knitting or attending to other domestic duties. So seldom did she receive tidings of her father, that she lived in a constant uncertainty of his being. In this state of anxious and unprecedentedness, and at the same time bursting into all the freshness of womanhood, it is not to be wondered at that she had many admirers among the youthful yeomen of the neighborhood; but to all their attentions she only respectfully and modestly attended, yet in such a winning manner and honied voice, as only to excite them to a stronger effort to secure her affections. Among them was Richard Dayton, the son of an Englishman, whose father was a staunch adherent to the royal cause, and who regarded all who expressed their wish for the liberties of their country, as traitors and fitting objects for the vengeance of the tyrannies. Among these, Caroline's father was particularly marked, and it was only in defiance to the daughter that he had not already given information to the foreign minions to take possession of his estate. Richard Dayton naturally inherited an animosity to republican principles from his father, and never failed on every opportunity to express his sentiments for and hopes that the British arms should prove triumphant. To these expressions Caroline replied not—but the blood of indignation would mantle on her cheek, and with a spirit worthy of her sex, a moment of heart she would breathe a prayer that the cause of freedom would be extended on every mountain, forest, plain and valley of her beloved land. Richard Dayton was therefore not the favored being of Caroline's affections. One molder in mind, although neither so rich or well-favored in person, had won her heart ere her father's departure—a young American who had joined the ranks of liberty and to whom Caroline had promised her hand should he ever return. His name was Henry Walworth, whose father's grounds adjoined those of Renton. From infancy they had grown up together, till their thoughts and feelings were commenial; while, by the parents, they were silently regarded as destined for each other. Young Dayton could easily perceive the partiality of Caroline for Walworth, and he rejoiced extremely when he embraced the cause of the rebels, as he emerringly termed them, doubting not but that he would never return, or if he did that he could easily denounce him to the British, who would rid him of his presence and permit him to follow his rifle without a rival. Thus for three years had time sped on, but all the efforts and kindly attentions of Dayton failed to make a favorable impression on the heart of Caroline, while the gloomy intelligence which reached her respecting the fate of the patriot army, served only to make her dread in secret for the life of her parent and that of her lover, and to look forward to a hopeless and dreary existence.

One winter evening, when seated homesome and spiritless in her little parlor, the domestics having retired to rest, a knock was heard at the door. Her heart sunk within her. Who could it be at such an hour? She listened—again the knock was repeated, and the voice of Dayton was heard, exclaiming,—Open, Caroline—it is I."

A thousand surmises passed through her brain as to what could be the purport of his visit at so unusual an hour, and rising and withdrawing the bolt she admitted him. His appearance denoted that he had ridden at a desperate pace, and without preface or ceremony, he demanded of her if she had heard the intelligence, while a glow of exultation pierced over her features.

"No!" replied Caroline. "Is it of the army?"

"Yes!" he shouted, and throwing himself into a chair, held out to her a parchment on which was emblazoned in a red hood seal, the royal arms. "There, my pretty one, read. Rebellion and its defenders will soon meet with their just deserts," and he laughed aloud.

"Traitors and its defenders! say rather," cried Caroline, snatching the document disdainfully from his hand, while the royal insignia fell on her eyes like the glare of a basilisk. She hastily unfolded it and read as follows:—

"Whereas, Edward Renton and Henry Walworth Americans of the State of New York, having joined the rebel army, and fought against the forces of her most gracious Majesty, George the Third, we, her representatives, do hereby commission our military and civil officers, at all hazards, to secure their persons dead or alive.

"Given under our hands and seals this day, the 18th of February, 1781.

"COMMISSION. RANDOM"

Caroline looked pale—her breathing became short and thick—the fountain of the heart sent its waters to her eyes, till her vision grew dim and vague, and she grasped at the air as if for support. Dayton beheld this and extended his arms to prevent her from falling—the touch of them seemed to recall at once her faculties, and she sprung from him as from a serpent about to fold her in its coils.

"Why have you brought this to me?" cried the indignantly.

"To tell you what will be the fate of your father if he refuses not to his allegiance!"

"And to whom does he [illegible] asked Caroline.

"To whom! Why to King [illegible] answered Dayton.

"To false!" responded the [illegible] indignation. "To the King of Heaven—allegiance—to human power never! [illegible] the despotic parchment. Yes, tell the tyrants [illegible] that Edward Renton will never bend the knee to [illegible] God!"

"Well said," cried Dayton, "if so well May Caroline you are a female, otherwise your sentiments might have placed you in trouble."

"And what though I am, sir!" He scorned that every true American female will shed her blood in the defence of liberty if her sons are not on numbers competent to repel their country's invaders. But why bring that parchment here, sir? It concerns not me more than the other daughters of America. And why at such an hour seek to invade the dwelling of a lone woman, with tidings that only distract but cannot console?" Her feelings overcame her and she yielded to a flood of tears.

"Believe me, Miss Renton, I meant not to agitate you thus," said Dayton, hypocritically, "but there is another to whose welfare I know you are deeply interested, and I thought that any tidings of him would be of—"

"Oh! whom speak you, sir!" cried Caroline, half divining his meaning.

"Oh! Henry Walworth!"

"Ah! so he alive—is he safe—is he victorious! speak, for God's sake! and save my heart from breaking!"

"He is not alive!" responded Dayton; "he fell in the battle of Trenton!"

"Thank God he died for his country!" exclaimed the maiden, and she sunk lifeless on the floor.

Dayton stood like the arch-fiend triumphant.

"In the temple of peace and independence, which you, sir, seek to turn into a den of strife and bloodshed."

"Excellent! beautiful! sentiment and eloquence combined!" exclaimed the cocroach, but we shall have plenty of food for the gallows by and bye. I am now on my way to the royal camp with despatches; I shall not fail to report my reception here. It was my intention to have passed the night here, but I fear my life would be the penalty before morning. Good night, my honey rebel. Miss Dayton, your servant. You shall be well taken care of," said the villain, significantly, and he proceeded to quit the dwelling.

A clattering of horses' feet was now heard on the road, and glimpses of military costume discernible occasionally through the trees in the last rays of evening. Shouts and laughter also broke nearer and nearer upon the ear, 'till a young man dashed up the avenue, followed by two others. "Father!" shouted he as he leaped from his steed, and rushed up the porch. "Father, our arms are victorious—our country is free. Liberty is proclaimed throughout the land—tyranny has perished!" and he fell upon the breast of Peter.

"Mien boy! mien boy!" cried the old man, "welcome to your fader's heart."

"And to his mother's also," said the old dame, who clasped him to her arms, and covered his manly cheek with kisses.

Dayton stood paralyzed. The two others approached.

"Bid welcome to my companions in arms," said young Walter Deuchman—"Mr. Renton and Henry Walworth."

"Oh! God, my father," screamed Caroline, and fell senseless upon the floor. In the next moment she was in the arms of her father, and Henry hanging over her affectionately.

"Not so fast, mien very *good friend*," said Peter to Dayton, seizing him by the collar, for he was sneaking away; "not so fast. Here are a few of your favorites, der *rebels*; how like you der appearance?"

Dayton spoke not a word, and Caroline reviving, was embraced tenderly by Henry; when looking round her, as almost waking from a dream, she beheld Dayton. "Ah! he here?" exclaimed she. "Thank Heaven, I am now safe from his persecution," and she sobbed bitterly on her lover's bosom.

"From whom, my Caroline?" inquired Henry.

"From his, that bad man, Dayton, who led me to believe that you were numbered with the slain, and by whose machinations and those of his father's, I was this morning driven from my home."

"Villain!" exclaimed Renton—and at the same moment Walworth demanded why he had thus acted, Dayton could not reply, but he stood a trembling and guilty thing.

"But he has despatches," said Peter, "for the enemy."

"We have no enemies now," said Walworth; "peace is proclaimed, but let us see what is their import; produce your papers, Mr. Dayton."

"Never," cried Dayton, as he pulled a pistol from his pocket—"never, but at the sacrifice of life."

"Rash man!" said Walworth, "resistance is in vain; deliver them quietly; no harm shall befal you, I pledge my honor."

Dayton replied not, but making one bound from the porch to the ground, he mounted one of the horses of the party, and dashing his spurs up to the rowels in the flanks of the animal, like a flash of lightning sped up the avenue, then turning in his saddle, he discharged his pistol, the ball of which slightly grazed the breast of Peter. The rifle was yet in the hand of the old man, which he had seized to discharge at Dayton, when he was prevented by his wife and Caroline. "Tydl—traitor—craven," he shouted, and the short quick crack of the piece succeeded the exclamation. A shrill cry was heard, Dayton was seen to spring into the air, and falling from the horse, was dragged along by the foot to the stirrup for a considerable distance. When discovered, he was a mutilated mass; the ball had entered his temple, and the blood flowing freely, his countenance was clotted with gore and dust, presenting a hideous appearance. His obsequies were brief—a pit dug by the road side received his remains. On examining his papers, they were found to contain secret information for the enemy, but they would have proved of no avail, as the surrender of Cornwallis had established the reign of Freedom. The next day, Renton, with Caroline, accompanied by Walworth, departed for his home, which for many years he had not beheld. His appearance, it may be supposed, was unexpectedly unwelcome to old Dayton, who received a prompt and imperative demand to surrender up his estates and effects to the American government, as one who had long been noxious to their cause. Between Walworth and Renton, they were divided, in consideration of their long and dangerous struggles in the emancipation of their native land, and Caroline, according to her promise, bestowing her hand upon Walworth, lived to behold her daughters, beautiful and virtuous as their mother, and her sons inheriting the bravery and patriotism of their sire.

SATURDAY POST.

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Acknowledgment.

We give our thanks to a large number of the subscribers of the Post, for the very handsome manner in which remittances have been made to us, for some time past, and for the quality of the funds, in which they have been made. We shall endeavor on our part to do justice to them in turn.

A word to those still in arrears. We shall be much obliged for a speedy settlement, as the volume is now opened, and we wish to start, unincumbered by *back balances*. Let the accounts all be settled up, and we will take a *fair* start together and see who shall first tire in the race. *We shall continue to issue a splendid paper.*

☞ Mr. S. W. Fullerton, Jr. will act as agent at Newburgh, Orange county, New York, for the S. E. Post and Graham's Magazine.

☞ J. Warren, P. M. at Washington, Miss. is agent for the Post and Magazine.

☞ James McLaurin, of Haverstraw, New York, is *not* now agent for any of our publications.

Witchcraft.

The progress of intelligence is gradually removing one after another of the superstitions of the people; and among them the belief in witchcraft is fast disappearing, if it has not already grown into discredit. It is true, in some of the rural districts, a few believers in witchcraft may still be found, but the good sense of the people and the march of education are fast dispelling this superstition.

It is astonishing how universal the belief in witchcraft was scarcely two hundred years ago, and prior to that time a panic on this subject prevailed to an alarming extent in Europe. We can hardly credit in this age the number of persons who fell victims to the laws against witchcraft. In the latter part of the sixteenth century, hundreds, nay thousands of persons were put to death by the most extreme torture, in France, Germany, Spain and throughout all Europe, under the imputation of witchcraft. Even in England the panic prevailed to a considerable extent. In 1612 in Lancashire, twelve persons were executed for this imputed crime, and in 1644, in the same county, seventeen more were put to death for the same offence. The whole land was convulsed with the trials for this crime. Nearly a hundred persons were executed on the information of a wretch, by the name of Matthew Hopkins, who followed the occupation of a witch hunter. Strange to say the pious Richard Baxter believed in this delusion, and even recommended what he called the zeal of the infamous Hopkins. During the protectorate of Cromwell great numbers were executed for witchcraft. Both Sir Matthew Hale and Chief Justice Holt presided at the trials of individuals who were subsequently burned or hung for this crime. The most learned, as well as the best men of the age believed in witchcraft; and Sir Thomas Browne, the author of the "Religio Medici," unhesitatingly declared his belief in witchcraft and entered into a discussion on the subject. Not less than two thousand persons are supposed to have been hanged or burned for this crime, in the British isles, during the seventeenth century.

Our own country cannot plead an exemption from this phrensy. William Penn presided at the trial of a witch in Pennsylvania, but happily the woman escaped through an informality of the indictment. As late as 1742—if we recollect aright—a woman was executed on the Hudson for being a witch. The earliest history of the Puritans presents instances of witches being executed, and in nearly every case the miserable victims died protesting their innocence. At Springfield, at Charlestown, at Dorchester, at Cambridge, at Boston, in almost every one of the old towns of New England, men and women have perished on the gallows or died shrieking in flames, for the fictitious crime of witchcraft. The Salem excitement arose in 1692, and, for a while, raged with uncontrollable fury. During this fearful phrensy the charge of witchcraft blanched the cheeks of the bravest, for it was a sure forerunner of an ignominious death. We can scarcely credit, at this day, the histories of that memorable excitement. It has left a lasting stain on the reputation of the Puritans.

A philosophic enquirer into the causes of this excitement would grope long in the dark before he could arrive at any conclusion. The actors in the matter were generally good men, and honestly believed in witchcraft. They were not behind their age. They did not invent the facts on which their belief was founded. The knowledge of this has puzzled most writers on the subject. But we think that the elucidation of the mystery is to be found in the credulous nature of the leading characters in this excitement, and in the fact that every popular excitement acts and re-acts on itself until men are hurried into acts, which even they, in their cooler moments, would be glad to disavow. And that such was the case in the Salem excitement is evident from the rapidity with which it died after it received a check, and men began to cool. It disappeared as if by magic. It went out like a flash of lightning, leaving, however, traces, in the blackened and scarred soil, of its terrific progress.

We live in a brighter day. Superstition is fast rolling up and disappearing before the light of universal education. The belief of our forefathers in witchcraft finds few disciples, and those few are compelled, by the force of public opinion, to keep their creed silent. When we reflect how much misery has been brought upon the world, by the belief in this fictitious crime, we cannot but rejoice, like Miriam, over our enfranchisement.

Further News from Santa Fe.

We are indebted to the St. Louis Republican for an account of the capture of the Santa Fe expedition, and the oppressions inflicted on the prisoners. That journal justly remarks that "the recital of the treatment shown the American citizens will rouse the blood of every one." The information from Santa Fe was brought to Independence, Mobile, by a party from the Mexican settlements. It appears that information had been forwarded to Don Manuel Armego, both from Mexico city, and from General Arista, commanding the Northern Mexican Army, of the departure of the Texians from Austin, in June. Much anxiety pervaded the Mexican population; and such was the conviction of the Governor (Manuel Armego) that the Texians would carry the country, that he made his will, and secreted his own treasure on that of the wealthiest citizens.

On the 9th of September, Mr. Howland, a Texian officer, accompanied by Mr. Roseberry and Baker, reached Santa Fe, and on the 11th a Cumanchee brought information that the Texian Force had reached the eastern settlements. Mr. Howland was ordered to remain eight days in Santa Fe, but finding himself suspected of being a Texian spy, left with his companions on the evening of the 12th. On the 15th, an Italian, accompanied by a Mexican, (a citizen of Texas) arrived and were imprisoned. The Italian gave exaggerated accounts of the force and intentions of the Texians. During the fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth the Mexican militia passed through Santa Fe, going out to meet the Texians. On the 16th, the Governor ordered all the foreigners to confine themselves to Santa Fe, and departed himself for the seat of war. On the 16th, news arrived that Colonel Juan Andres Archuletta, at the head of the Mexican militia, had met the advance corps of the Texians, under Colonel Cook, (eighty-three men and seven officers,) at Antonchencho, seventy-five miles from Santa Fe. Negotiations were attempted to be held on the part of the Texians, wherein Navarro represented, on the part of the Texians, that their objects were to invite the New Mexicans to unite themselves to the Texian Republic. The answer was that the Texians must surrender or fight—and they eventually surrendered, without firing a gun, on condition that their lives should be secure.

On the 7th of October, news arrived of the surrender of Colonel McCloud, and the main body of the Texians, two hundred in number, some fifty miles in the rear of position of Colonel Cook. On the 27th of September, the Mexicans celebrated their victory at Vegas, the frontier settlement on the road to the United States. The Texians were stripped of their arms, property, and shoes. These were thrown into a pile in the public square, and distributed among the militia by the Governor himself. The proclamations, &c. found about the Texians, in the Spanish language, were thrown into a bonfire, and the prisoners and foreigners bound, driven up, and compelled to witness it. Among these documents burnt was the passport of Mr. Kendall, (the editor of the New Orleans Picayune,) who, with some twelve traders, were taken with Cook's party. These gentlemen had been confined at San Miguel until the capture of McCloud's party, when they were likewise stripped, and turned into the common crowd of prisoners. The whole number of prisoners was three hundred and four, who were immediately marched off in a gang, barefooted and half naked to the city of Mexico, a distance of two thousand miles—at a season when the frost was severe and the weather inclement! The conduct of the Mexicans is represented as savage and ferocious in the extreme toward the defenceless prisoners, and to have extended, in many instances, to the foreigners residing in the country. Mr. Howland and his companions who had retreated from Santa Fe, were overtaken by a party of Mexicans, near the river Pecos, where Roseberry was killed. Howland and Baker being brought to the Governor, were, by his order, shot, without trial, as Texian spies.

On the 16th of October, before his departure from Santa Fe, Armego, the Governor, wrote to the American Consul, ordering the foreigners to confine themselves within the town for twenty days. After his departure, the nephew of the Governor, who is also his confidant and secretary, accompanied by a sergeant and soldier, and followed by a mob, attacked the house of the American Consul, burst into it, and wounded him severely in the face. Threats were made by the rabble against the American citizens, and many were arrested and thrown into prison, from which, on the return of the Governor, they were released. After attacking the American Consul, the mob proceeded to the jail, where their leaders stabbed the Mexican (from Texas) who had been arrested with the Italian on the 15th.

Mr. Alvarez, the United States Consul, states that most vindictive feeling was exhibited against himself, and the American citizens resident in New Mexico. He applied, on the 2d of October, for his passport to proceed to the United States, which was refused until the 25th, it being the premeditated design to delay him so late as to expose him to perish, on his long journey by the depredations of the Indians or the inclemency of the weather. Mr. Alvarez left Santa Fe with sixteen men and sixty-seven horses and mules. Five of his companions parted from him at the Arkansas to make their way to Fort Gibson and Texas—one (John Richmier) was frozen to death; three were left sick among the Kansas Indians, one being frozen in his feet; and, of the sixty-seven herd of animals, forty-eight perished, owing to the lateness of the season.

Of the cause of the rapid and disastrous termination of the Texian expedition, it appears that some dissensions had broken out among the Texians on their route. Nineteen of their numbers had been killed by the Cumanchee, and some forty of their horses destroyed. During the parley held previous to the surrender of Col. Cook's corps, a division appears to have existed among his men. The larger portion listening to the suggestions of Navarro and Lewis for a surrender, and but seven siding in opinion with the commander, who wished to fight and die rather than surrender. It is said that Navarro reproached the Mexicans with the murder of Fanning's command, upon which a verbal promise was given that their lives should be saved. Col. Cook, it is said, tore the epaulets and buttons from his coat, and broke his sword, expressing the most vehement denunciations against the treachery by which he was paralized.

The Mexicans spoke of him as brave and indomitable. What privations may have been endured by the Texians, during a march of three months are not known, but it is the opinion of all that if a proud spirit had been exhibited by the Texians, and a battle fought, victory would have been easy, and the country submitted without resistance. The promptness with which the Mexicans marched to meet the invading force, probably surprised them, as Howland had missed them in his retreat, and they were ignorant of the condition of affairs in New Mexico.

The conduct of the Mexicans to the resident foreigners were insolent enough—and the names of four American citizens are given who have been murdered, without the perpetrators being brought to justice. This arises from a wish to expel the American traders, that the natives may monopolize all the business.

Destructive Fire.

A destructive fire occurred at Medina, N. Y. on Saturday, which destroyed $25,000 worth of property. The following exhibits the names of the sufferers, the amount of property destroyed, and the amount insured:—

Owners of the Eagle Tavern, $9,000, no insurance; J. D. Foot, $3,500, insurance 2,500; H. & J. H. Goodrich, $100, no insurance; Vibbard & Northrop, $1000, insurance $1000; A. Norton, $250, no insurance; C. Hill, $2500, insurance 1500; C. H. Parks, $6000, insurance 4000; Fuller & Spencer, $100, no insurance; E. Bent, $800, insurance 300; B. Fairman, $800, insurance 400; R. Martin, $300, no insurance; G. R. Lewis, $500, no insurance.

American Consuls.

A recent case of alleged murder on board of an American ship was brought before the London Magistrates, who discharged the prisoner and referred the case to the American Consul.

Fortunately for the end of justice the Consul was acquainted with the law of nations and the laws of his country and acted accordingly. None but men of the first talent and education should be appointed Consuls.

Gov. Seward's Message.

The Legislature of New York met at Albany on Tuesday last. The House were speedily organized. Mr. J. S. Chatfield of Otsego was chosen Speaker of the House.

The Message of Gov. Seward was transmitted to the Legislature on Tuesday. An express from the New York Sun carried the message to New York city in eight hours and fifty-five minutes running time. As the message is lengthy we content ourselves with an abstract and a few quotations.

The Governor speaks of the Asylum for the Insane, which he says is ready for the reception of its inmates; of the Geology of the State, the Mission to Holland, and the Dispute with Virginia and Georgia. In regard to the demand of the Governor of Virginia for the surrender of three persons claimed as fugitives from justice, and to repeal the law extending the trial by jury, the Governor re-iterates his conviction of the illegality of the requisition, and says the Legislature will "decide whether the trial by jury shall be relinquished, and whether a State which acknowledges no natural inequality of men, and no political equality which may not ultimately be removed, shall wrest that precious shield from those only whose freedom is assailed, not from any wrong doing of their own, but because the greatest of all crimes was committed against their ancestors."

Nineteen Associations under the General Banking Law, and five Safety Fund Institutions have been closed. To guard hereafter against fraudulent excesses of circulation, he suggests that the Safety Fund Institutions may be required to receive their circulating notes from the Bank Commissioners or the Comptroller.

He calls the attention of the Legislature to the re-organization of the Congressional Districts.

He speaks at length upon the School Fund question. Twenty thousand children in the city of New York, of suitable age, are not at all instructed in any of the public schools, while the whole number in all the residue of the State, not taught in Common Schools, does not exceed nine thousand. For the purpose of removing complaints arising from prejudices against the School System of New York City, he proposes to restore to the Common Schools of the City the simple and equal feature of the Common Schools of the State.

"To vest the control of the common schools in a board, to be composed of commissioners selected by the people, which board shall apportion the schools moneys among all the schools including those now existing, which shall be organized and conducted in conformity to its general regulations and the laws of the State, in the proportion of the number of pupils instructed."

The revenues of the State exhibit a progressive increase.

"The amount derived from auction duties was $206,702, being an increase of $42,000 over the corresponding revenues in the previous fiscal year. The amount received by the superintendent for duties on the manufacture of salt, was $194,216, being more than was received in the previous year by $36,000.

The income from all the counties during the season of navigation, was $2,340,078, exceeding the tolls of the previous year by $250,131, equal to 14,15-100 per cent. The tolls in 1831 were $1,223,801.

The revenue of all the canals during the fiscal year, after deducting only the expenses of collection and ordinary repairs, was $1,551,098. The permanent public debt, at the close of the last fiscal year; exclusive of temporary loans, contingent liabilities, and the balance of the Erie and Champlain canal debt, for the payment of which equivalent funds are set apart, $15,540,530, to which must be added temporary loans amounting to $1,855,000, annually payable thereon, 530, and the interest annually including also interest on the stocks loaned to the railroad companies which are in default, is $919,704. The debts consist of stocks chiefly redeemable in 1845, 1850, 1855 and 1860. The amount of stocks issued to the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, and railroad companies, is $5,035,700. You will, of course, give immediate attention to proper measures for reimbursing temporary loans."

He advocates the enlargement of the Erie Canal, and the completion of the Erie Railroad and other improvements, and as a proof of the fiscal ability of the State, refers to the untaxed wealth of the people, equal to seven hundred millions of dollars. This part of his message concludes thus:

"Since the works were undertaken, the rate of interest demanded upon loans to the State has advanced from five to about seven per cent. Prudence, under such circumstances, counsels moderation—yet the value of money has not increased as much as the price of labor and subsistence have fallen—and it would certainly be the worst of all economy to discontinue enterprises so important for a season so inadequate, or to sacrifice, in delays and damages, more than the additional cost resulting from the enhanced rate of interest.

While we ought, therefore, to pursue the undertakings cautiously, and even at some apparent although unreal sacrifice, we are, nevertheless, required to put forth every effort to restore our public stocks to their former value. Such efforts, however, would prove unavailing, if the evil were misunderstood. We are in competition with other States and countries in borrowing money. The securities of other nations are not depreciated, while those of our sister States, whether they owe less or more, are reduced none less than our own, some 30, 40, 50, 60 and 70, and even 80 per cent.

The Federal Government, which has once paid absolutely a debt of $189,000,000, and which now owes nothing, is unable at the same rate of interest we offer, to obtain a loan for three years of an amount equal to only half a year's revenues. Is it true then that the depreciation of our stocks has resulted from the greatness of our debt, or from the magnitude of our undertakings, or from any fiscal unsoundness or error? On the contrary, it is apparent that our stocks are depressed by some general cause affecting all governmental securities.

* * * * * * *

But although the causes affecting our public securities are beyond the reach of direct efforts, we can, nevertheless, mitigate the evil and contribute to a remedy. It is an urgent duty to fortify our credit, not merely for the purpose of securing a discrimination in our favor, but also to furnish an encouraging example to our sister States. I suggest, with a view to this purpose, a rigid adherence, under all circumstances, to the rule hitherto observed, that the whole public debt shall not be raised above such an amount as that its interest cannot be paid out of the current surplus revenues of the canals; and to remove all questions concerning the fiscal soundness and moral integrity of the State, I recommend that all future revenues from the National Domain shall be pledged as a sinking fund to the extinguishment of the principal of the public debts, annually paying, or providing for the payment of a part of the principal, and absorbing first the older debts.

If seventeen millions of dollars are yet required to complete our public works, the system I have suggested, would, in 1845, discharge the whole of our present and future indebtedness, and after that time leave us unincumbered annual revenues. If we adopt this, or some more judicious fiscal system—if we truly value our resources, and justly appreciate our enterprises, we may prosecute them diligently and firmly, and with even higher confidence in their perfect success and unbounded usefulness than has ever before been entertained.

If, moreover, we declare that at no time, nor under any circumstances, can the states justify a violation of the public faith by any of our sister States, but at the same time yield to those States in performing their obligations, our sympathy, support, and such aid as is within our constitutional province; if we stand by those younger, less wealthy and less powerful, but equally patriotic members of the confederacy, in this crisis—as we know full well they would stand by us if menaced from abroad—we shall see them rapidly recovering from their embarrassments, and worthily regained the confidence of mankind."

Maryland Finances.

The report of the Treasurer of the State of Maryland shews the financial condition of that commonwealth. The receipts into the Treasury from all sources, in the year ending Dec. 1, 1841, were $985,970 36—the disbursements $894,492,03—leaving a balance of $91,478,33, which is subject to unexpended appropriations for $194,956,26, showing a deficiency of revenue of $104,374,92; to which is to be added the cost of the present session of the Legislature, estimated at $45,000. The charge from all sources, on the Treasury next year, is estimated at $1,215,483,07, which is to be supplied by the tax, the ordinary revenue, and the interest and dividends received from internal improvement companies. The result is, that the tax will be chargeable with the payment of $600,000 a year.

The present assessment is calculated to raise only $400,000, so that there will be a deficit of $200,000. The whole State is assessed at 200 millions, of which the city of Baltimore furnishes 66 millions.

An attempt was made lately in the Maryland Legislature to repeal the tax law, but the motion was promptly refused, fifty-six members voting against and twenty-one members for it. Thus has repudiation been frowned down in Maryland. Whatever else may happen, neither of the OLD THIRTEEN will ever refuse to pay debts, owing to innocent fund holders.

John Vaughan.

This venerable man has at length gone to his rest. Our citizens will long remember his aged figure, his active benevolence, his memories of the olden time. He was a native of England, but has resided in this country for the last sixty-five years. At the time of his death he was eighty-six years old. He had retired from business but a few weeks before his decease. He was an intimate acquaintance of Franklin, and of most of the great and good men of the revolution. He thus formed a link betwixt the present and the past, and many were the personal anecdotes he had to relate of these departed sages. His purity of life, his intelligence, and his beneficence had long endeared him to all who enjoyed his acquaintance. For many years he was Secretary of the American Philosophical Society, and he filled the post up to the hour of his death.

His remains were interred at Laurel Hill, on Sunday last. A large concourse met at his residence and followed the body to the Rev. Mr. Furness's church, where appropriate services were performed. Upwards of thirty carriages afterwards attended the remains to Laurel Hill.

Meeting of U. S. Bank.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the United States Bank was held on Monday last in the building of the institution. The usual business before the meeting is the election of Directors for the ensuing year, but other business is often submitted to the assembly of stockholders. On this occasion the meeting, contrary to all expectation, proved a stormy one. The Ledger gives an abstract of the occurrences of the meeting, from which we quote. That paper says:—"The general impression was, that the Bank had become powerless—that its assets were so far wasted as to be of little interest to its creditors how they were managed for the future. Such, however, proves not to be the feeling, at least so far as concerns the disposition of the remainder of the wreck of the assets. The meeting was rather large, and the debate which ensued on the motion of Josiah Randal, Esq., to disapprove of the two last assignments of the Bank, was animated. These disposed of property to assignees in trust for the payment of note holders and depositors—and the last made, which is known as the General Assignment, disposing of all the balance of the property of the Bank, for the equal benefit of all its creditors. The adoption of resolutions annulling these assignments, were warmly argued by Mr. Randal, in favor, and Mr. Rawle, in opposition, and were finally adopted. The action of Monday, requires the confirmation of a subsequent meeting to become valid; which is called for the third Monday in February next. The first assignment made, being a partial one, to secure the post notes given to the City Banks, to secure them for the amount for which they became responsible to the Eastern Banks for the U. S. Bank, is still in force. What the result of all this is to be, is more than we can at present divine, except that the expenses may be materially lessened by limiting the number of officers and assignees engaged in the settling up of the affairs, and thus lighten the enormous drain upon the bankrupt concern in the shape of salaries, &c.; which, one of the speakers remarked, now exceeded, annually, $50,000.

It will have another effect, too, of putting all creditors of the institutions on all equal footing, which will be but justice, if the result should prove that there was any thing for any of them. One other important act of this meeting, we are informed, was the adoption of a minute and very voluminous report, submitted to it by the officers of the Bank, touching all its affairs, debts and credits. The names of its creditors, the amount of their indebtedness, when contracted, and how secured. If this document be what it is represented, it is one of the most important that ever emanated from the Bank, and the meeting acted most wisely in ordering it to be published.

The following are the tickets which were voted, the one headed "Regular" being elected.

Regular Ticket.	*Biddle Ticket.*
James Robertson,	James Robertson,
William Drayton,	John Hemphill,
William Rawle,	Robert Taylor,
R. C. Hall, of Carlisle.	Oliver Fuller,
Joshua Lippincott,	Lawrence Lewis,
John Hemphill,	Calvin Blythe,
Moses Kempton,	Peter Wager,
William B. Fling,	Davis B. Stacey,
Oliver Fuller,	Henry Toland,
Foster G. Crutcher,	John R. Vogdes,
Edward Coles,	Samuel R. Wood,
John Bacon,	John Struthers,
Robert Gilmor, of Baltimore.	W. E. Warner,
John Potter, of Princeton, N. J.	Thomas Tustin,
Leonard S. Suter, of New York.	Francis Jordan,
Jno. S. Donnell, of Balt.	William Badger,
Benjamin W. Richards,	Samuel D. Ingham, of Bucks County.
John R. Neff,	Ellis Lewis, of Lycoming.
Manuel Eyre,	Jonathan Roberts, of Montgomery.
Moses Wills, of Columbus, N. J.	William Ayres, of Dauphin.

Child Attacked by a Leopard.

A shocking accident occurred on Saturday evening at the Bowery Amphitheatre. It appears that Mr. David Watkins, of No. 643 Fourth street, on that evening took his wife and child—a little girl of about four years of age—to that establishment, and finding the Bowery entrance too thronged to admit them readily, they went to the entrance in Chrystie street. This passage round is through that part of the building used as a menagerie of wild beasts; and among the collection is a young leopard, which is uncaged, and has no confinement or security except a chain some eight or ten feet long—he being supposed to be so perfectly tame and domesticated as to be wholly uninfluenced by the savageness of his nature. As the little party was passing this animal, wholly unconscious of any danger, and consequently, not prepared to avoid it, the leopard made a sudden spring at them—attracted, probably, by something red about the dress of the child—and in the twinkling of an eye, seized in his mouth the head of the little girl, who was in her mother's arms, and who was thus raised to about a level with the box or platform, occupied by the leopard. Mrs. Watkins instantly swooned and fell, leaving her child in the grasp of the animal. The consternation and alarm created by the appalling circumstance, soon brought one of the keepers to the spot, who, by a couple of heavy blows with a club upon the animal's head, made him let go his hold of the child, who was found to be terribly torn and mutilated about her head, one of her eyes out, and otherwise most shockingly wounded. Surgical aid was obtained for the little sufferer as speedily as possible, and there is some hope that by judicious treatment her injuries may be so far healed as to permit her life to be saved, but that desirable result is very dubious. At best, she has lost one of her eyes, and will be otherwise greatly disfigured for many years, if not for life.

The carelessness of the keepers of the Menagerie in leaving so ferocious an animal as a leopard but slightly secured, is highly reprehensible. We understand that Mr. Watkins contemplates bringing an action for damages. The verdict in his favor should be prompt and exemplary.

Gen. Scott's Report.

The report of General Scott, on the State of the U. S. Army, contains many interesting details. The Secretary of War, however, in his report has embodied much of the information contained in the General's report. Gen. Scott refers to the Florida war, and says that during the last year the field operations of the troops have been principally confined to the operations of the war against the Florida Indians. Col. Worth's efforts are warmly commended. The present extent of the army is "fourteen regiments—two of cavalry, four of artillery, and eight of infantry. It is recommended that two additional regiments, one of artillery and one of infantry, be formed, under the confident belief that sixteen regiments is the *minimum* regular force now absolutely required by the country.

"The present inequality of pay between the officers of the same grades in the different branches of the service is referred to as involving injustice and causing uncomfortable feeling. A mode of remedy is suggested which, it is thought, will remove the difficulty. The Report calls the attention of the Department to two subjects of great interest—one referring to a system of *retired pay*—the other to the propriety of some provision by law in favor of widows and orphans of regular officers who have died or may die in consequence of wounds received or diseases contracted in service. A provision has already been made in behalf of the widows and orphans of navy, volunteer and militia officers, dying under the circumstances just named."

The Report remarks,—"Indeed the whole subject of army pensions to widows and orphans, and to disabled officers, requires equitable revision." In this opinion we fully coincide, and hope the early attention of Congress will be devoted to a consideration of the subject.

Rhode Island Constitution.

The free suffrage Constitution, lately framed by a voluntary Convention in Rhode Island, has been submitted for adoption to the free male white citizens of that commonwealth over twenty-one years of age. The Convention declared that if a majority of such citizens should vote for the suffrage constitution it would be adopted. Such a majority, it appears, has been given. The whole number of males in the State, over twenty-one years of age, is 26,042. The number of aliens is estimated at 2500, leaving 23,542 free male citizens over twenty-one. A majority would be 11,772, and between 13,000 and 14,000 votes have been given in favor of the suffrage constitution. Only 3,533 persons entitled to vote under the existing laws of Rhode Island have, however, voted in this majority, the remaining 7,168 being composed of individuals not acknowledged as voters by the old government of the State. Here is a direct revolution. The suffrage party will now, we suppose, proceed to organize a government. Will the old authorities, and their supporters the freeholders, submit to this? How will the matter terminate?

Concerts.

Mr. Dempster, the first of ballad singers, gave a Concert at the Musical Fund Hall on Monday evening. The room was well filled, and Mr. Dempster was never in better voice. He sang all of his favorite pieces, among them "The Irish Emigrant's Lament," written by Mrs. Price Blackwood, a sister of the Hon. Mrs. Norton. The concluding stanzas of this pathetic song are exquisite.

On Tuesday evening, at the Musical Fund Hall, Messrs. Herwig and Knoop gave a brilliant concert. Both of these gentlemen are almost unrivalled in their way—Mr. Herwig as a violinist, and Mr. Knoop as a performer on the violincello. Their concert was one of the best that has been given for some time in Philadelphia, and, in more than one passage, the performers actually seemed to electrify the audience.

Buildings Erected.

During the year 1841; there were erected in the city and incorporated districts of the county one thousand three hundred and forty-three new buildings, of which there was in the city proper four hundred and fifty-two; in Spring Garden three hundred and fifty-two, of which, East of Broad street, there was two hundred and five; comprising 170 three story bricks, 26 two story bricks, 1 one story brick, 2 one story stone, 2 two story frame, and 2 one story frame; all of which were designed for dwellings but ten,—and West of Broad, one hundred and forty-seven, of which 118 were three story brick, 12 two story brick, 3 one story brick, 14 three story stone, 2 one story stone, 1 three story frame, and 1 one story frame, all dwellings except seven. Frame buildings are not erected in this district South of Coates and East of Tenth streets. In the Northern Liberties eighty-four permits were taken out, and one hundred and four buildings erected. Frame buildings not allowed to be put up South of Coates street. In Southwark two hundred and five houses were put up, principally of brick, and three stories high. In this district frame buildings must be erected sixteen feet back from the front line on the street.

In Moyamensing one hundred and forty houses were built, all of brick, and the greater portion of them three stories high. No frames are allowed to be put up North of Federal street. In Kensington ninety permits were granted for new buildings, of which three-fourths were made of brick. There is no doubt that more buildings have been erected than the number stated, as in some of the districts permits were granted which set down as for one building, whereas several houses might have been put up under the single grant.

Naval General Order.

We copy the following order of the Secretary of the Navy:

"Whenever an officer shall be arrested on a foreign station, it shall be the duty of the Commander-in-Chief of the station to order a Court for his trial, as soon as possible after he shall be notified of the arrest; and this he shall not refuse nor delay, except for imperative reasons, connected with the public service.

If such imperative reasons shall exist, so that a Court Martial cannot be detailed, and actually set for the trial of the accused, his arrest may continue for thirty days after the Commander-in-Chief of the station shall be notified thereof, and no longer; and the accused shall then be returned to duty, unless for sufficient reasons, the Commander-in-Chief shall otherwise direct; but he shall be again arrested and shall be tried as soon as the condition of the service will admit of it.

No officer arrested on a foreign station, shall be confined to his room, nor restrained from the proper use of any part of the ship, in which, before his arrest, he had a right to be, except the quarter deck; unless such restraint shall be necessary for the safety of the ship, or the preservation of good order and discipline; and even in that case, he shall be no farther restrained than shall be necessary. A. P. UPSHUR.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, Dec. 15, 1841."

The spirit of this order appears to us highly commendable. It prevents much petty tyranny on the part of a commanding officer.

Navy Seized.

The collector of the port of New York has seized two splendid schooners lying at anchor in the Hudson, opposite to Jersey City. They were built in New York ostensibly for private account, but in reality it is believed, for the Mexican government, to be employed against Texas. The cost we believe was $90,000—of which $30,000 are said to have been paid—the balance to be paid on their arrival at their place of destination. The law of the U. S. making illegal the fitting out of armed vessels at our ports to be employed by other governments against governments with which the United States are at peace, was, as we understand the matter, to have been evaded by a pretended sale by the ostensible owners to the Mexican government. Each is armed with a Paixham thirty-two pounder at midship, and six eighteen pound carronades; and each is fully officered by Mexicans, and manned chiefly by Americans. Mr. Curtis also found several Mexican ladies on board—probably ladies of the officers.

North Eastern Boundary.

Major Graham, who has been employed during the summer in surveying the North Eastern Boundary has intermitted his arduous task during the winter, and is now, we understand, at Washington city. He has had during the last summer about one hundred men in his employ. The trees upon the line have been removed, on the tops of the hills to a space of about one hundred feet, and lessening in width down to the valleys, and the whole line cleared and bushed. The survey has been continued a few miles above the Grand Falls, very near which the line is found to run. The old line had been found very crooked, and the new running with the straight line, takes in several houses in the country below Grand Falls, and in some instances portions of the cleared field of the farmers there. Some of them, would, at times, get exasperated at the proceedings, but most of them were rather calm. About sixty miles of the line, through an unbroken forest, still remains to be surveyed.

Case of Rev. Mr. Van Zandt.

The Rochester papers are nearly filled with this trial. The first witness was the alleged victim, Miss Sophia Murdoch, now 18 years of age, who is described as very fine looking, apparently an artless, confiding creature, she stated the commencement of her acquaintance with Van Zandt—the commencement of his advances towards undue familiarity—till the final accomplishment of her ruin. The testimony in defence augurs his acquittal, as the Rev. Thomas Britton testifies that he was with Rev. Mr. Van Zandt from half past 10 o'clock, A. M. till about 4 o'clock, P. M. of the same day when the crime is alleged to have been committed. The girl says it was committed in defendant's study, about half past 2 P. M. If Britton's testimony cannot be overthrown, Mr. Van Zandt's vindication is complete. It is corroborated by that of James De Wolf. Mr. Van Zandt appears to have been, in this matter, an injured man and we rejoice at the vindication of his innocence.

What Means It?

We find the following notice in the Boston papers. What does it mean? Do Messrs. Emerson & Co. doubt the inspiration of the Scriptures, and would they give or withhold their "*imprimatur*" at this convention? This is the notice.

BIBLE CONVENTION.—The undersigned were appointed at a meeting in Chardon Street Chapel, on the 28th of October last, a Committee to call a Convention, to be styled the Bible Convention, for the public discussion of the credibility and authority of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. We do, therefore, invite all persons disposed to take part in this discussion, to meet at the Masonic Temple, in Boston, on Tuesday, the 29th day of March, 1842, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

R. WALDO EMERSON,
A. BRONSON ALCOTT,
MARIA WESTON CHAPMAN,
EDMUND QUINCY.

This, in the seat of the Pilgrim Fathers! Verily times do change.

A Downright Slander.

The Germantown Telegraph, after descanting at length upon a series of horrible atrocities, lately perpetrated in that village—such as carrying off the spectacles of the good-wives, eating their cold meat, and "spilling the tallow," and having set forth the *undoubted* bravery of the Germantowners, in having absolutely "*halloo'd at*" the miscreants, closes with the following paragraph:

"The villains no doubt all belong to Philadelphia, and generally bring out with them a wagon to carry their plunder."

Now with all deference, we beg leave to suggest, whether this is not the second coming of the "Ghost of Chew's Wall," as nothing but an *apparition* of some sort could have raised such a hubbub in the "quiet village."

The idea of putting off fellows that the Telegraph admits are "no gentlemen" upon Philadelphia is rather cool.

New Arrangement.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Herald, writes thus from Washington, under date of Monday evening:—"A new practice is about to be adopted in reference to social visiting at the White House. Since the accession of President Tyler, the drawing-room has been open every evening for the reception of all the acquaintances of the family, and other persons having the *entree* to the Executive mansion.—The house has thus been thronged with visitors every night. To entertain them all is a task of great labor, and both the President and the ladies must have found it insufferably irksome and fatiguing. Hereafter, it is intended by the President and his family to see their friends on two evenings of each week—Thursdays and Saturdays."

The Public Lands.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office reports to the General Government that the sales of public lands during the year 1840 amounted to 2,236,889 71-100 acres—the purchase money to 2,789,637 53 100 dollars; and the receipts into the Treasury, from the same source, to $3,292,683 29.100. During the first three quarters of the year 1841, the sales amounted to 1,161,073 39.100 acres; the purchase money to $1,034,833 42.100; and the receipts into the Treasury, from the same source, during the same period, to 1,104,063 06-100 dollars."

Congressional News.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29, 1841.

Mr. Buchanan presented memorials from merchants, manufacturers, and other citizens of Pennsylvania, asking for material alterations in the Bankrupt Law, or for its repeal. The memorials were laid upon the table.

Mr. Morehead presented a memorial from citizens of Kentucky, praying for a repeal of the Bankrupt Law.

Mr. Clay introduced his three Joint Resolutions proposing an amendment to the constitution, in three important particulars, as named in the report of yesterday.

First, to restrict the Veto Power so that Congress may pass a bill by a majority vote after it has been returned from the President.

Also, requiring the Executive to return a bill within the first three days of a new session of Congress, if the ten days shall not have expired before the adjournment of a prior session.

Secondly, to change the appointment of the Secretary of the Treasury and Treasurer of the United States from the Executive to Congress.

Thirdly, to prevent the appointment of any member of Congress to any civil office during the official time for which he was selected.

The resolutions were read, and on motion of Mr. Clay made the special order of the day for the 12th January.

Mr. Preston moved that the fiscal plan of the President of the United States be taken up for consideration. Mr. P. expressed his earnest hope that the subject would be debated in a good spirit, and that either the scheme of the President, or something like it, or something else would be adopted which would afford relief to the people. He did not despair, however, of some final and favorable action on the part of the Senate, in reference to the scheme submitted in detail by the President and the Secretary of the Treasury.

The scheme, said Mr. P., was undoubtedly an efficient one. Some portions of it, however, he must confess, staggered his judgment, and he knew not that he could reconcile it to that judgment to give the plan in full his support. He was strongly convinced of the propriety of adopting the plans of the Government and the institutions of the Government to the institutions of the People. Mr. Preston concluded his brief remarks by moving that the plan of the Secretary of the Treasury be taken up for consideration.

Mr. Tallmadge moved its reference to a Select Committee, in order that it might receive the examination due to its importance. He moved that the committee consist of nine members. In making it, Mr. T. said he did not feel called upon to make any remarks. He was not in a state of health to do so, and he did not regard it proper to enter upon a discussion of the question of currency upon a simple motion of reference.

Mr. Buchanan said that he felt called upon to make some remarks upon the motion submitted to the Senate, and in reference to the plan which had been submitted by the President and his Cabinet.

Mr. Buchanan said he never uttered a sentiment in his life with more sincerity than that expressed by him at the close of the extra session of Congress, when he said he should be willing to receive almost any scheme which President Tyler should think proper to recommend. He felt willing, after arresting the two Bills to establish a National Bank, to give him almost a "carte blanche" for any scheme he might submit.

But, for such a scheme as this Mr. B. said he could not vote. It proposed the establishment of a great Government Bank, at the head of which was to be placed the Secretary of the Treasury. Mr. Buchanan pointed out his objections to the Bill in detail—confining his objections, however, to the powers granted by the Bill to the officers of the Government.

The next argument was, what should be the position of the Whig party in reference to this Government Bank. Those who had spoken against this power could not vote for the Bill. To the Democracy it presented innumerable objections, and was worse than a National Bank, except in all but that which gave Congress the power to repeal the Bill at pleasure.

Mr. Buchanan also commented upon Mr. Clay's former positions, and referred very briefly to some of his speeches opposed to the Sub Treasury Bill.

Leaving Mr. Clay, and his remarks in opposition to a Government or Treasury Bank, Mr. Buchanan came back to the scheme presented in the plan of the Secretary of the Treasury. It would afford as many opportunities for kite flying, and race horse bills of exchange as were presented in the Fiscal Corporation Bill of the last session. The only difference would be that the Bills of Exchange would have to be drawn and redrawn on shorter time.

The paper issues allowed under the Bill were objectionable in the view of the Senator from Pennsylvania. These issues could not be called Treasury notes. They were used for buying exchange, and were issued as three to one. To all intents and purposes they were Government paper, and all such efforts had failed in all time; the assignats of the French Revolution and the Continental money.

The amount of notes authorized by the Central Board of Exchequer were also objectionable. The Bill was one to borrow $15,000,000. Upon $7,000,000 in the Treasury you could issue $15,000,000, and this was equal to a loan of ten millions or fifteen if you used as you would the funds in the Treasury. It gave a paper money too, without the pretence of a specie basis.

In conclusion, Mr. Buchanan said that the scheme proposed had no warranty in the Constitution of the United States, and could not receive the sanction of that instrument to sustain it. He had resisted a similar plan when shadowed out at the extra session of '37, and when the giant intellect of the expounder of the Constitution was called forth, contending that the Government could issue paper money. He had resisted this power as he should now. The measure which had been submitted called for a showing of hands, and he showed his with his friends, opposed to the scheme submitted, and in favor of the Independent Treasury.

Mr. Calhoun said he did not rise to oppose the motion of reference, or to argue the plan submitted by the Secretary of the Treasury. That plan merited all the compliments which had been bestowed upon it. It was simple, able and explicit, and triumphantly vindicated many grounds taken in time past by the party to which he was attached.

In regard to a Bank of the United States, Mr. C. said it would be found impossible to get the stock of such a Bank taken. In all time to come it could not find credit. The plan recommended in part such a scheme and with it the establishment of an Exchequer, but it admitted, and wisely, the power and right of repeal. It admitted that circulation and discount were incompatible. He had so said in 1837. There were other admissions which he would but now consider, and which he received with more pride than pleasure.

But the scheme was a Bank, not in name, but effect. The exchange parts of it were a Bank in all its functions, and in this view he agreed with all that had been said by the Senator from Pennsylvania. It created also a great Government debt. It infringed upon the ground on which he and the friends with whom he acted stood. They would not abandon this ground in any essential particular.

Mr. Rives, in the absence of Mr. Tallmadge, who was unwell, complained of the discussion upon the ground that it was out of place before the committee had examined and reported upon it.

Mr. R. contended also that the Report and Bill presented no recommendation of a Government Bank. The Committee would recommend no such scheme as this. The Sub-Treasury system was also commented upon by the Senator from Virginia and greatly adverse to it.

Mr. Rives closed his remarks between three and four o'clock, when Mr. Mangum moved an adjournment, intending to speak to-morrow.

HOUSE.—Numerous Bills of a private nature were reported from the Committee of Claims, and a resolution was offered by the chairman, Mr. Giddings, of Ohio, that this committee be allowed a clerk, with the usual compensation; to this an amendment was moved by Mr. Cave Johnson, restricting the term of employment to the present session. Upon this amendment the yeas and nays were called, and resulted in 90 affirmative, 64 negative; the resolution as amended was then passed.

Numerous Bills were then presented from the Committees on Claims and Public Lands, and one from the last named, extending the time of issuing military land warrants in favor of officers and soldiers of the Revolution.

Mr. J. Q. Adams submitted a resolution, which was agreed to, referring so much of the Message of the President at the late session, in reference to Foreign Relations, as was unreported upon by the committee at that time, to the same committee of this session.

The call of the committees being exhausted, Mr. Fillmore stated that his committee had instructed him to ask of the House that the Loan Bill might be taken up at once, in committee of the whole. He urged the immediate wants of the Treasury, that there was a present deficit of $250,000.

Mr. Burke, however, claimed the floor, and the debate of yesterday was continued.

WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 30, 1841.

Mr. Allen presented the proceedings of the Legislature of Ohio, asking the action of Congress as speedily as possible upon the subject of the apportionment, and stating that the effect of a delayed action would be the necessity of convening the Legislature in extraordinary session.

The resolutions of instructions were read and left upon the table.

Mr. Walker presented a memorial from citizens of Mississippi, praying for an amendment of the Constitution upon the subject of a United States Bank, and the currency generally. Referred to the Committee of Finance.

Two resolutions were presented during the morning, and laid over for further consideration.

The first was offered by Mr. Graham, calling for information as to the number of Cadets at West Point, and the apportionment to each State. The second was offered by Mr. Barrow, and asked for information in detail as to the number of Midshipmen appointed since 1837. Mr. Barrow also moved a resolution proposing an inquiry into the expense of erecting a Custom House at New Orleans.

The President of the Senate presented a letter from Messrs. Blair & Rives in regard to the printing of the sixth census. These gentlemen claimed the printing of the census papers which have been given by the State Department to the printers of the Senate. The letter states that a part of the printing has been done at the Globe office, and that the same is in the course of printing at the office of the Madisonian. The memorial was read and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The President laid before the Senate a communication from the State Department, stating, in answer to a resolution of the Senate, that no correspondence had passed between the two governments upon the subject of the mutual right of search on the high seas. The report was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Mangum made some reflections upon the author of the Currency Scheme, and upon the state of the times, the circumstances under which they had been brought about, &c.

There was no disposition to continue the debate today, and Mr. Benton moved that when the Senate adjourn, it adjourn to meet again on Monday next. The motion prevailed, and Mr. King of Ala., moved an Executive Session, which was ordered.

The Senate adjourned to Monday.

HOUSE.—Various attempts were made to get in petitions, and some little confusion ensued; meanwhile the Speaker called the attention of the House to a circumstance which we understand as follows, viz: that if certain additional matter which had been ordered to be incorporated in the census document, together with the additional copies, were twice printed, an expense of $60,000 would be incurred. A motion was here made to refer the subject anew to a Select Committee.

Several members having taken the floor for the purpose of presenting petitions, Mr. Andrews, of Ky., insisted upon taking up the general orders of the day.

The members then again resumed the unprofitable discussion of the Tariff, mingled with partisan politics.

WASHINGTON, January, 3, 1842.

SENATE.—Mr. Wright presented memorials from New York in regard to the Bankrupt Law. Several were presented, two praying for postponement for two months, one for amendment, one for repeal, and the passage of a bill including corporations, and only prospective in its character. Another was signed by one hundred merchants praying for two years' postponement. One of the memorials was read, when

Mr. Wright said he was assured that all these petitions were highly respectable, and composed of the strongest houses in the city of New York, and of those who signed the memorials many of them were those who paid the duties at the Custom House. The business and place of residence in each instance were also given.

A memorial from the Chamber of Commerce of New York, upon the same subject, and praying for amendments, was also presented.

Mr. Benton presented two memorials upon the same subject, and asking for an amendment of final postponement.

Mr. Buchanan presented two like memorials, all of which were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. Mr. Calhoun presented a like memorial also from New York, asking great amendment or repeal.

A memorial was presented by Mr. Buchanan from Warren, in regard to the Seneca Indian Treaty.

Mr. Preston presented a resolution calling upon the Judiciary Committee to inquire whether any further legislation is necessary in the case of the death or the resignation of both the President and Vice President of the United States, and to report by bill or otherwise. The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Barrow's resolution offered on Thursday last in relation to giving to each State its quota of Representatives, was passed.

Also the resolution in relation to the Cadets at West Point, offered by Mr. Preston.

A bill was reported to establish a Board of Claims.

A bill was introduced to refund the balance due to Massachusetts for disbursements in the war with Great Britain.

The following bills were passed:—

For the benefit of the Selma and Tennessee Railroad Company.

Authorizing the State of Louisiana to sell lands.

Also to allow drawbacks on foreign goods exported in the original packages to Chihuahua and Santa Fe in Mexico. Chihuahua is the centre of the Mining District of Mexico. We export goods there and receive gold and silver from them in return. Those who had the inland trade paid no duty, and the bill proposed the same benefit to others.

Mr. Huntington advocated the passage of the bill as the organ of the committee who had introduced it. Mr. Benton moved an amendment favoring Missouri in the route, which was not opposed.

Mr. Woodbury asked the Chairman of the Committee if his attention had been paid to the necessity of including the Northern as well as the North Western Frontier?

Mr. Wright said that the subject necessarily was an independent one. A new Bill would be introduced favorable to the Northern trade as an independent proposition.

Mr. Benton gave notice that at the first gap in the business of the Senate, he would ask for action upon his Bill, postponing the operation of the Bankrupt Bill to the first of July next.

Mr. Huntington being entitled to the floor upon the question of referring the Report and Bill from the Secretary of the Treasury, argued at length in opposition to the plan submitted in the Bill. He expressed himself adverse to the scheme in all its details, and entered more minutely into the question than any of the Senators who had debated the Bill.

The speech was intended as an exposition of reasons for not voting for the plan. Mr. Huntington differed from Mr. Rives and Mr. Tallmadge, as to the propriety of discussing the question now, and regarding it as in order, he entered upon a general and specific discussion of the Bill. Those who have given countenance to the measure he conceived had done so under a misapprehension of its importance, or with ignorance of its effects.

In his estimation, the Bill was an enormous Government Bank, having unlimited power to start upon, and dangerous in all its particulars; and secondly the powers if enforced, would fail to accomplish what was desired. It embraced principles also which he argued the President had contended against, and which were true in themselves. In conclusion he argued that no American Senator, entertaining such sentiments as he possessed upon this Bill, could give it his support.

Mr. Bates of Mass. rose to continue the discussion, but being late, an adjournment was called for and soon carried. Mr. Bates, therefore, will speak to-morrow.

A Report from the Treasury Department was then presented and ordered to be printed; when an adjournment was moved.

HOUSE.—Two or three petitions were wedged in, and a new member, Mr. Russell, in the place of Judge Black, deceased, appeared and was qualified.

Mr. Andrews, of Ky. insisting upon the orders of the day.

Mr. W. C. Johnson took the floor.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4, 1842.

SENATE.—Mr. Wright presented a memorial from citizens of Buffalo, N. Y. praying some action on the part of the General Government which may lead to the release of American prisoners sent to Australia. The petition was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. Linn introduced a resolution, which was read and laid over, requesting the President of the United States to make known the intention of this Government, agreeably with the provisions of an existing treaty in relation to the Oregon Territory, not to allow the enforcement of that treaty, by which, as the resolution alleges, great advantages are afforded to Great Britain.

Mr. Young, of Ill. introduced a Bill which had its first and second reading, with a view of reference, proposing an amendment of the Land Bill of 1841, so that the Legislature may control, whether in session or not, the land appropriated to the respective States.

Bills passed in relation to the Drawback on goods exported to Santa Fe and Chihuahua in New Mexico.

Several Pension Bills were considered during the morning, none of which were passed, but all of which were laid over save one—Mr. Calhoun opposing them upon the ground that the evidence was insufficient, and that no Bill should pass which was not favorably considered by the Department. Mr. Prentiss, of Vt. took issue with Mr. Calhoun, and replied to him in the case of a man who had served the proper time, but whose case the Senator from South Carolina was disposed to neglect because the evidence did not satisfy him.

The unfinished business in relation to the Board of Exchequer was called up at half past one, in the form of the motion of reference, and the debate thereon continued for an hour and a half.

Mr. Bates, of Mass. and Mr. Barrow, of Lou. spoke upon the question, and yielded the floor to Mr. Morehead, who will speak to-morrow.

Mr. Barrow took the extreme ground in opposition to the President of the U. S. He said he was not willing to acknowledge the President as the head of the Whig party. He had no confidence in him. He had been once disappointed by his hopes—had proved himself inconsistent—had withdrawn his confidence from the party that gave him his support—and had shown himself eminently inconsistent in manifesting a disposition to charter a great Government Bank, much worse than any contemplated in the Bill of the extra session, and every way obnoxious.

Mr. Merrick moved an Executive Session, which was ordered, and the Senate soon after adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. Lewis Williams submitted a resolution that the report from the Land Office be printed, and the same referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. Hunt offered a joint resolution restricting the term of office of the President of the United States to four years, and making the incumbent ineligible a second time, which was objected to.

Mr. Adams inquired what was the business which now had precedence. Some conversation ensued between Mr. A. and the Speaker, the former insisting that when some days since he had the floor, and presented a petition from Hamilton county, Ohio, against the continuance of the 21st rule, and moved the reference of the same to a Select Committee, which giving rise to debate, was laid over—the Speaker informed him that if he then gave way and permitted the reference of the President's Message be taken up, this subject would then be next in order.

He appealed to the Speaker's memory, and called for the performance of the Speaker's promise. After mutual explanations, the Speaker decided, upon referring to the Journal, that this resolution to refer the aforesaid petition with instructions to a Select Committee was in order.

Mr. Merriwether moved an amendment to the instructions, to abolish, the previous question, re-establish the "one hour rule," &c. &c.

Mr. Adams raised the question whether this amendment, being thus general, could be made to his distinct proposition.

The Speaker decided the amendment to be in order.

Mr. Wise appealed from this decision, and debated briefly the incongruity of the amendment with the first resolution, but before he took his seat withdrew the appeal and moved to lay the whole subject upon the table.

Mr. Adams rose, and with much excitement, declared that the House had already once decided against the laying of these petitions upon the table, and also took issue with the Speaker upon the fact, whether the instructions which were appended to his resolution were, at the time, declared to be out of order. Mr. A. referred to the public journals of that day to prove that such was the case. The Speaker relied upon the journal of the House.

Mr. A. was strongly called to order, and directed by the Speaker to take his seat.

Upon motion to lay the whole subject upon the table, the *viva voce* vote was ordered, and was ayes 115, nays 84.

Messages was announced from the President of the United States, and also from the Senate.

Mr. Giddings enquired if the other petitions, presented at the same time, were not now before the House. The Speaker replied that he held in his hand twenty petitions to the same effect, which were now to be decided on. A motion was made to lay the whole of them upon the table.

Mr. Adams called for the yeas and nays upon the first of these petitions, and they were ordered. The vote stood ayes 103, nays 87.

The Speaker suggested taking the question upon the remainder, but Mr. Adams insisted that the title of each petition be read, and the question upon putting the same on the table be put by the Speaker.

Mr. Stanly, upon the ground that several members from New York had skulked from the vote, again called for the yeas and nays which were ayes 107 nays 83.

The remainder of the questions were then put and carried, to lay the remainder of the petitions upon the table.

New Publications.

LECTURES ON MODERN HISTORY FROM THE IRRUPTION OF THE NORTHERN NATIONS TO THE CLOSE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.—*By William Smyth—2 vols.—Cambridge: John Owen—Philada.: Carey & Hart.*—These lectures were delivered by the author in his capacity of Professor of Modern History in the University of Cambridge, England. We have not enjoyed sufficient leisure to peruse them in full; but the chapters on the American Revolution are singularly impartial, and if the whole work is equally meritorious, we certainly know nothing which is so good an introduction to a course of modern history. Jared Sparks, in a preface prefixed to these volumes, speaks in the highest terms of the merit of Mr. Smyth's lectures, characterizing them in the following words—"there is nothing superficial or ill digested; nothing taken at second hand; the lecturer's mind is brought to bear with its own original vigor upon all the subjects that come under his notice; his opinions are frankly and fearlessly expressed, and sustained by a force of reasoning, which rarely fails to produce conviction, never to inspire respect and confidence."

The plan of these lectures is simple, yet comprehensive. The professor first enumerates the various historians what have written on the subject, then he proceeds to decide which are the best authorities, and finally he closes his remarks by a rapid and comprehensive narrative of the events of the age of which he has been treating. A better guide than these lectures to the young student of history does not exist. But while these lectures are so valuable to young men, "they furnish," in the words of Sparks, "nutriment for minds in every stage of culture."

These volumes are printed in a style commensurate with their value. They are from the University Press at Cambridge, Massachusetts, and having said this we have paid them the highest possible compliment. The only fault we have to find with them is in the binding, which, though excellent in its way, is not sufficiently durable for a standard work.

THE KNICKERBOCKER—*January*, 1842.—The leading paper this month, is a parallel betwixt Bonaparte and Wellington. The article displays gross ignorance on the part of the writer whoever he may be. His strictures on the Moscow campaign especially, are full of false views and gross mistakes of fact. For instance, he attributes the ruin of Bonaparte's army to the inclemency of the season, when, had he read history aright, he would have known that nearly as great a number of The Grand Army perished in the summer march on Moscow as in the winter retreat from that city—he would have known that the scarcity of provisions and the character of the country was the chief cause of this mortality, and that Napoleon did all he could to provide provisions for his troops, shewing no want of foresight whatever in this respect. The writer's remarks on the battle of Waterloo, are equally at variance with truth. So far from the manoeuvres of Wellington prior to that battle being skilful, they were—to use Napoleon's words at St. Helena—exactly as an enemy would have wished. Wellington was saved at Waterloo only by the iron courage of his soldiers. Had they been less valiant, or had Napoleon succeeded in breaking their line, the ruin of the whole British army would have been inevitable, as they were posted in a position from which retreat was impossible. The whole article is full of glaring errors, errors indeed so astonishing, that they look like wanton misrepresentations.

There is some excellent poetry in the number, and one or two prose articles of merit.—*Drew & Scammell, Agents.*

BALLADS AND OTHER POEMS—*By H. W. Longfellow—1 vol.—J. Owen, Cambridge—Carey & Hart, Philadelphia.*—Longfellow has established his reputation as the most imaginative poet in America, and if, as some assert, imagination is the sole test of the poet, then is Longfellow the first poet of the country.

A large portion of the present volume is occupied by a translation of a Swedish poem, entitled "The Children of the Lord's Supper." The remaining part of the volume is taken up with the fugitive pieces of the author that have, since the publication of the "Voices of the Night," appeared in various periodicals of the country. Many of these ballads and other poems possess high merit, but we cannot praise them indiscriminately. Perhaps the most exquisite of the poems is "Endymion"—"The Goblet of Life," and the lines to the river Charles, however, are little less beautiful. The collection is not so large nor so fine as the one published under the title of "The Voices of the Night."

The volume is elegantly printed, and bound with taste. We commend it to every lover of American poetry.

LADY'S MUSICAL LIBRARY—*for* 1841—*vol.* 1. *No.* 1.—This is a new monthly, undertaken by our friends McMichael & Godey, which promises to become one of the most popular magazines of the day. The plan of the work is to furnish the latest music to subscribers, at a price which will distance all competition. We have in the present number no less than eleven songs, gallopades, quadrilles, marches, &c. The size of the work is a large quarto, and the appearance of the music is in no ways inferior to that issued by the music stores. The work is sold at three dollars a year, thus furnishing music to the subscribers which could not otherwise be procured under thirty dollars. For a further account of the work—its plan, merits, cheapness, &c.—we refer our readers to an advertisement in another column. The issue of this magazine, we predict, will bring about a revolution in the musical world.

POEMS—*By J. G. C. Brainard—1 vol.—E. Hopkins, Hartford—Carey & Hart, Philadelphia.*—This elegant little volume deserves all the commendation which is bestowed on it in the article from Arcturus on our first page. As an American poet Brainard takes high rank, and his early death alone prevented him, in our opinion, from winning a still prouder reputation. There is evidence of greater power in him than he has anywhere developed. Many of his pieces are careless to a fault, but everywhere you meet verses which only a true poet could have written. Yet Brainard has left behind him many a fine poem which would alone be sufficient to immortalize him. This is the best edition of his poems which has ever appeared.

THE AMERICAN BIBLICAL REPOSITORY—*January*, 1842.—This quarterly belongs to the adherents of the calvanistic creed, and is conducted with signal ability. The contents of the number for January, are varied and interesting. The leading article is a paper on "The Aborigines of North America," which we have read with great pleasure. An excellent article on the Nestorians follows. The most valuable paper, however, is one on Increase and Cotton Mathers, discussing at large the connexion of the latter divine with the Salem Witchcraft. The Repository is published by W. R. Peters, New York, at four dollars per annum to mail subscribers.

ARCTURUS—*for January*, 1842.—This periodical has received a new infusion of spirit with the new year, and comes to us embellished with an engraving by Phiz. The sketch illustrates a scene in Puffer Hopkins.

The papers in this month's Arcturus are racy, dashing and nervous. We have copied an article on Brainard's Poems, and a tale by Hawthorne, from its pages. There are two fine Sonnetts by Lowell, in the number. Mr. Duyckinck has furnished a well written paper against death by hanging. In "The Loiterer," we find a choice unedited Poem by Keats. *Drew & Scammell, Agents.*

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY, IN ITS APPLICATIONS TO AGRICULTURE AND PHYSIOLOGY.—*By Justus Liebig, M. D. &c. &c. Professor of Chemistry in the University of Giessen—2 vols.—J. Owen, Cambridge—Carey & Hart, Philadelphia.*—This is the second edition of Professor Liebig's Chemistry. It requires no praise at our hands, for its merits are widely diffused and generally known. The present edition is from the University press at Cambridge, and is unexceptionable in paper and typography. Its clear and elegant pages remind us of the best London works.

THE PATRIARCH OR FAMILY LIBRARY MAGAZINE—*January*, 1842.—The number of the Patriarch before us is handsomely embellished, and filled with forty-eight pages of interesting matter. The articles are generally original. The Patriarch may be had of W. E. Rogers, 67 South Second street, Philadelphia.

MERRY'S MUSEUM—*January*, 1842.—This little Magazine is issued, stored with excellent matter, and adorned by several fine wood cuts. Let it be remembered that Merry's Museum is edited by Peter Parley. Terms one dollar a year. *Drew & Scammell agents.*

Debt of Ohio.

The Annual Report of the Auditor of Ohio exhibits the following:—

Permanent loans,	$11,411,234 11 0
Temporary loans, (for which stock has been hypothecated,)	1,336,000 00 3
Temporary loans, without	250,355 70 0
Surplus revenue, loaned by counties	53,000 96 0
Surplus revenue, loaned by Auditor of State,	21,980 32 0
Amount due turnpike companies,	546,679 35 0
Domestic debt,	1,346,588 88 2
Scrip issued to rail-road and canal companies,	581,515 00 0
Total,	$15,573,354 22 2

This does not embrace the amount due from the canal fund to the sinking fund, for loans and interest from the latter to the former fund.

Gov. Porter's Message.

Both Houses of the Pennsylvania Legislature met at Harrisburg on Tuesday, but they were not fully organized until Thursday. John Strohm, Esq. of Lancaster, was elected Speaker of the Senate, and James R. Snowden, Esq. of Venango, Speaker of the House. We give below the Message of Gov. Porter to the Pennsylvania Legislature. The Message was delivered at Harrisburg, on Thursday at noon, and reached Philadelphia the same evening.

The tone of the Message in relation to the State Debt and the Internal Improvements is highly praiseworthy. We commend those portions of the document especially to our Pennsylvania readers.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Fellow Citizens:—In performance of the duty enjoined on me by the Constitution, I proceed to give you such information of the state of the Commonwealth, and to recommend to your consideration such measures, as I think expedient, at the present time. The discharge of this duty is, in many respects, beset with difficulty, but this does not absolve me from the obligation created by my official station. In a spirit of perfect frankness, I shall submit to you, the best dictates of my judgment, and shall be happy if, in your wisdom and experience, you can so modify and improve them as to promote in a greater degree, the welfare of our common constituents, the people of this Commonwealth.

The subject of deepest interest, and greatest perplexity, that calls for our attention is, the financial condition of the State. Although I have, on several former occasions, entered into a full and minute exposition of this matter, I cannot refrain from again presenting it to your consideration, in a manner so distinct and plain, as to preclude, I trust, the possibility of misconception on the part of those who feel an honest desire to understand it. I am persuaded that however embarrassed may be the pecuniary affairs of the Commonwealth, nothing is needed to induce the people to provide means to extricate them, but a clear and candid exposition of the nature and extent of the liabilities, to which they are subject. The time for concealment, evasion and deception on this point, is at an end. The contract has been made. The faith of the State is pledged, and every consideration of duty and of honor require of us, to know our true condition, and to provide adequate means to meet our obligations, and to redeem our plighted faith.

There is due by this State, to the United States, on account of deposit of surplus revenue, the sum of $2,-867,514 78. The funded debt of the State, amounts to $36,331,005 68. This debt is reimbursable as follows:—

$270,081 87	in the year	1841
62,500 00	" "	1844
3,516,568 81	" "	1846
50,000 00	" "	1847
1,000,000 00	" "	1850
2,000,000 00	" "	1853
2,000,000 00	" "	1854
2,783,161 00	" "	1856
7,070,661 00	" "	1858
1,250,000 00	" "	1859
2,648,680 00	" "	1860
120,000 00	" "	1861
3,225,060 00	" "	1862
200,000 00	" "	1863
2,515,000 00	" "	1864
1,797,000 00	" "	1865
2,524,000 00	" "	1868
1,957,362 00	" "	1870
340,981 00	at expiration of certain bank charters.	
Total $36,331,005 68		

This debt has been contracted for the following purposes:—

For Canals and Railways,	$30,055,013 68
To pay interest on public debt,	3,304,303 00
For the use of the Treasury,	1,571,689 00
For Turnpikes, State Roads, Bridges, &c.	930,000 00
For the Union Canal,	200,000 00
For the Eastern Penitentiary,	120,000 00
For the Franklin Railroad,	100,000 00
For the Pennsylvania and Ohio Canal,	50,000 00
Total	$36,331,005 68

The value of our public improvements, estimated at cost, is	$20,292,165 33
The State owns bank stock which cost at par	2,108,700 00
The State owns Turnpike and Bridge stock,	2,843,048 89
The State owns Canal and Navigation stock,	831,778 66
The State own Railroad stock,	350,546 90
Money due on unpatented lands, estimated at	1,000,000 00
Total,	$36,426,239 78

The immediate difficulty of our situation, arises mainly from the payment of the interest annually accruing on this debt. This interest is about $1,800,000; and this sum, it is incumbent on the State to provide as it becomes due. The inconsiderable portion of the funded debt, now redeemable, can be, doubtless postponed until more auspicious times, but the interest admits of no such postponement. This is in a great measure payable to those who cannot afford to procrastinate its reception, and whose means of subsistence depend, on the faithful adherence of the State, to its solemn engagements with its loan holders. The income especially appropriated to the payment of this interest, is derived from the following sources, to wit:—tolls on canals and railways, auction duties, tax on collateral inheritances, dividends on turnpike, bridge and navigation stocks, escheats and the tax levied on real and personal property, &c.

The amount received from each of these several sources, during the last fiscal year, ending 30th November last, is as follows:—

From tolls on Canals and Railways	$162,360 44
From Auction duties,	77,022 15
From Collateral inheritances	21,591 43
From Dividends on turnpike, bridge and navigation stocks,	40,355 72
From Escheats,	336 64
From Tax on real and personal property, &c.	43,292 77
Total,	$924,959 15

The sum in the treasury applicable to this object, on the first day of this month, independent of what will be received during the month, was $1,020,936 38, being $124,042 62 more than is necessary to pay the interest due on the first of February, next.

In relation to the assessment and collection of the state taxes, under the act of the 11th June, 1840, the greatest delinquency is found with the county commissioners. No return or statement has been received from several of the counties, although required by the 6th section of the said act, to be transmitted to the Auditor General on or before the first Monday of September, in each year. It is, therefore out of my power to inform you of the amount assessed under said act. From the information, however, received, I feel warranted in saying that it will amount to about half a million, or within a fraction of it. That amount will be considerably increased by the valuation and assessment provided by the "act to establish a uniform mode for the valuation of property and assessment of taxes," passed 15th May, last; the returns of which are required to be made to the Auditor General within the present month, and will be laid before you as soon as received.

The duty of the county commissioners to make returns of the assessments, &c., to the Auditor General, imposed by law, seems not to be designated and enforced with sufficient precision and certainty. To secure its faithful performance, I recommend a revision of the law.

During the existing state of things, the continuance of taxes assessed, for the payment of this interest, or at least of taxes of some kind for this purpose, appears to be indispensable. If the distribution of the objects of taxation, or the mode of levying and collecting the tax be unfair, or onerous, undoubtedly the evil should be promptly corrected.

I have heretofore declared my determination to do all that belongs to this department to meet faithfully the engagements of the State, and to maintain unsullied, the credit and fidelity of our Commonwealth. My sentiments in relation to these matters have undergone no change, and I am pleased to find that on this subject, there is no diversity of opinion among the great mass of the citizens of the State. All agree that, whenever the constituted authorities of the Commonwealth, have entered into engagements conformably to the constitution and laws, whether these engagements have been characterized by due prudence and a proper regard to the interest of the public, or not, the honor of the State, the permanence of our republican institutions, and a sacred regard to the sanctity of public engagements, require that the resources of the Commonwealth, and the energies of her citizens, be put in requisition, to meet her public engagements promptly, punctually, and unhesitatingly. It is, therefore, respectfully and earnestly urged upon the Legislature, to take the necessary steps, at the earliest possible day, to ensure this desirable result.

As the most efficient means that have occurred to my mind, I would suggest the following course. Let the Legislature ascertain from the financial departments, both the ordinary revenue, and the amount necessary to be raised, annually, for the payment of the interest on the State debt, and the ordinary expenses of government. Let provision also be made to cover all possible contingencies and losses on collection. Add to this a sum, though ever so small, for a sinking fund, to be applied annually to the extinguishment of the principal of the public debt, and apportion it among the several counties of the Commonwealth, designating the amount to be paid by each, by an uniform apportionment according to the triennial, or last assessments, with such corrections and equalization as shall be found necessary, and on the same objects now taxable, or any others that the Legislature may think preferable. Let adequate and certain penalties be imposed on each county commissioner for omitting to have the duplicates issued in time, and on each assessor for the non-performance of his duties, and allow the county such a premium, as shall be thought right, if its full quota be paid into the Treasury, on or before the day required by law. It is believed that a committee of the Legislature would be as competent a board as could be raised, to apportion the quotas of the several counties, as above mentioned, aided as they will be, by the late assessments and census. The establishment of this system by law, would place the fund to meet the interest on the public debt, on a permanent foundation, and silence forever all doubts which interested speculators might seek to raise on this subject.

But it is not only to the loan holders of the Commonwealth, that she ought to be just in meeting her engagements. A regard to economy, as well as justice, to the men who labor upon the repairs of our canals and railroads, requires that they should be punctually paid. The laborer is worthy of his hire, and is as meritorious a creditor as the Commonwealth has, and it is absolutely disreputable that he should be dependant on the borrowing of money for his pay, and be unable, at times, for months together, to procure as much for his labor as will buy him a loaf of bread. It is respectfully suggested, that when abundant means from taxation are provided to meet the interest of the State debt, that the tolls on our public works shall be first applied to their repairs, so that we may know, at a glance, to what the nett revenue, if any, arising from them respectively amounts.

It is not to be disguised that we are deeply in debt; and that the times call for an unqualified fearlessness in our public functionaries, to meet the emergency, and to provide the means for our extrication. The people are already burdened with taxation, and those burdens cannot be diminished, if we expect to pay our debts. The conduct and motives of those who make provisions to pay them, may be misrepresented, and for a time misunderstood. Prejudice, from the sordid feelings of interest, may be invoked, and demagogues and unprincipled politicians will, doubtless, attempt to use it, to answer their own purposes. But the responsibility is one which every honest public functionary must meet fairly and frankly, and in so doing he will be eventually sustained by the people at large, who never deliberately err, and who always will reward, with their confidence, an honest and fearless devotion to their true interests, even though it may, at first, have met with temporary disapprobation.

The means to pay off the loan under the act of 4th May, 1841—to pay the foregoing creditors of the State, and the interest, on the public debt, must be provided before the Legislature adjourns. Sound policy, nay common honesty demands this much at your hands, and I am persuaded no member of the Legislature will shrink from a duty enjoined by such considerations as these.

It will be found on reference to the amount of taxes paid by the people, that comparatively a small portion is levied to discharge the interest on the public debt. Although in the aggregate the taxes are onerous, by far the greater amount is absorbed in the ordinary purposes of township, city and county affairs. I take great pleasure in stating the fact, that the increase of the taxes for the maintenance of the faith and honor of the State, has been regarded in a spirit of patriotic duty by the public at large, and has been borne without repining, unless, indeed, we except a very few persons, residing in portions of the State which have reaped almost the entire benefit of the expenditure of the vast sums of money, for the payment of interest on which these taxes are imposed. I felt satisfied when I recommended, early in my official career, the resort to taxation, instead of additional loans, to pay the interest annually accruing, that the enlightened yeomanry of Pennsylvania would, under the circumstances, sanction the recommendation. I am now convinced I did not mistake their true character; nor can the extraordinary conduct of some persons, professing better principles, who first urged the adoption of the measure, and afterwards denounced those who acquiesced in it, shake for a moment my steadfast convictions on this subject. I always believed the people would do their duty, let it cost what it might; the first instance is yet to be found in our history when they have flinched from it, if rightly understood.

The unprecedented increase of our population and resources, cannot fail, in a few years to render our improvements so productive as to supersede the necessity for taxation. The ultimate value of our stupendous system of public works can hardly now be estimated. They have already added an incalculable amount of value to the property of the citizens of the Commonwealth, and given an earnest of their capacity for future usefulness. The travel and transportation upon them must increase in full proportion with the multiplication of our population, and the developement of our exhaustless resources. When it is recollected that the population of this State in the year 1800, was only 602,545; that in 1820, it was 1,049,313; and in 1840, it was 1,724,033; showing an increase within the last twenty years, exceeding the whole population in the year 1800; and when it is remembered that this immense increased and increasing population has imparted, and is imparting its intellect, energy and industry to the improvements of the agricultural, mining, manufacturing and commercial interests of the Commonwealth; and that during the past year, when trade and business were greatly depressed; when the Delaware division was not in use until about the 1st of August; and when the important anthracite coal trade from the Wyoming, Shamokin and Bear valleys, and other intermediate points to tide; and the bituminous coal trade from the Allegheny mountain, on the West Branch, and Juniata region, to tide; have been barely commenced, the receipts of toll amounted to the sum of $762,260 44, it will be difficult to form a just estimate of the extent of their future usefulness and extended receipts.

These internal improvements for the construction of which the principal amount of the State debt has been incurred, consists of 768¼ miles of canal and railways completed, and 165¼ of canal in progress of construction and nearly completed.

The finished works are the following:	miles
The Delaware canal, from Easton to tide at Bristol	59¾
The main line of canal and railway from Philadelphia to Pittsburg	395¼
Canal from Beaver on the Ohio river to Greenville, in the direction of Erie	72¼
Canal from Franklin on the Allegheny river to Conneaut lake	49½
Canal, Susquehanna and North Branch from Duncan's Island to Lackawanna	111¼
Canal, West Branch from Northumberland to Farrandsville	73
Several side cuts and navigable feeders	7
Total canals and railways completed	768¼
Canals in progress and nearly completed:	miles
North Branch extension, from Lackawanna to New York line	90
Erie extension, from Greenville to Erie harbor	63¼
Wiconisco canal, from Duncan's Island to Wiconisco creek	12¼
Total canals in progress	165¼

The report of the canal commissioners, with the accompanying documents, which will shortly be laid before you, will show in detail, the state and condition of our public improvement. Having in former communications to the legislature stated my views in relation to our system of internal improvements, I beg leave, respectfully, to refer you to them, as being unchanged, without wishing unnecessarily to extend this communication, by embodying them in it.

When I first entered upon the duties of the executive department, the question of completing the North branch and Erie extensions was submitted to the action of the legislature. The representatives of the people decided in favor of completing both, and have by three subsequent acts, appropriated considerable sums of money for that purpose. The North Branch canal has already cost $2,348,276 38, of which the sum of $389,676 42 remains yet due to contractors. The Erie extension has already cost about $2,919,507, of which the sum of $574,466 23, is yet due to contractors. The grave question is now presented to your serious consideration, whether, under all the circumstances, those two lines are to be forthwith finished, or abandoned for all time to come, and the entire amount of labor and money expended upon them thrown away. Contractors who have gone on to the work, and perhaps executed the least profitable part of it, will have fair claims on the justice of the legislature for remuneration for the losses they have sustained by an abandonment of the work by the commonwealth. Judging from the success which usually crowns perseverance, in similar applications, before the legislature, there can be little doubt that this class of claimants will not go away unanswered and unsatisfied. The farmer whose lands have been cut up and destroyed, will also be a just claimant for compensation for the injury he has sustained, for which the advantages from the proposed canal will not be an available set off; and it may be well to enquire whether the amount of those claims would not go far toward the completion of those branches of our improvements. The only valid objection to a prosecution of these works to completion, is the difficulty to be apprehended in raising the necessary funds for the purpose. The estimated cost to complete the Erie extension is $536,142 46, and the North Branch $1,298,-416, independent of the arrearages due contractors, as before stated, which must be paid at all events. More confidence can be placed in the accuracy of these estimates of the cost of completing these works, than could be extended to those made in the earlier stages of our public improvements, from the increased practical experience of those intrusted with the duty of making them. My own opinion remains unchanged, that it is our true policy to go on and complete both these works with as little delay as possible. This, however, is a question exclusively for your decision.

For the debts now due to contractors on these lines, as well as for repairs on the other lines, rendered indispensable, and without which many portions of our canals would have been unavailable and useless throughout the season, I respectfully urge that some prompt and immediate provision be made. Many of the contractors have laid out their money for a long time, and have suffered serious injuries by the delay. If no better expedient can be devised, I would recommend the immediate issuing of a six per cent. stock, to all such creditors, redeemable at such time as shall be thought most expedient.

The amount required to pay debts due for repairs on the several lines of canal and railroad, it will be observed, by the report of the Canal Commissioners, is unusually large. This is to be ascribed to the unprecedented breach which occurred in the Delaware Division, in January last, which cost about $150,000; to the renewal of the North track of the Columbia railroad; to the rebuilding in a permanent manner, the locks, bridges aqueducts on several of the divisions, and particularly on the North Branch, where the original superstructures, composed entirely of wood, had so far decayed as to leave no other alternative, than either to renew them throughout, or abandon the navigation entirely. It is also, in part, to be ascribed to the fact, that only a portion of the funds appropriated by the act of the 4th of May last, for repairs and to pay debts then due, became available; leaving a large balance of the appropriations to these objects, therein authorised, still due to the public creditors.

There is always, even under the most economical administrations of affairs, a greater amount of expense incurred in managing and keeping in repair great public improvements for the Commonwealth, than it would cost if they were in the hands of individuals. It is, therefore, respectfully suggested for the consideration of the Legislature, whether the public interest would not be promoted, and the amount of the State debt considerably lessened, by a sale of the canals and railroads belonging to the Commonwealth, or at least, a portion of them, or such other disposition as would diminish their annual expenses to the Commonwealth, and increase the amount of revenue from them.

Were the Commonwealth free from debt, I should hesitate to recommend the sale of any of her public improvements. But oppressed as she is, the cost which the repairs require, and the necessity of relieving ourselves as far as possible, induce me to urge action on this subject, at least so far as regards the Columbia railroad, and the Delaware Division of the Pennsylvania canal. It will matter but little to those interested in the use of the improvements, whether they are in the hands of the public or of individuals, provided proper safeguards are enacted to protect the public in the free use and enjoyment of them, and to guard against abuses and exactions.

If it be objected that sales cannot be effected in the present state of our pecuniary embarrassments, that will be no reason why a law should not now be enacted authorising the sale of such portions of them as shall be deemed proper, subject to the approbation of the Legislature on the sale being reported. If sold, even on an extended credit, if the principle be secured, and the interest punctually paid, it will so far relieve the Commonwealth. If it were made a condition that State stock should be received in payment, it would probably make the sale more advantageous to the Commonwealth. The disposition of capitalists would thus be made known, and it can, at least, be ascertained whether a sale at an adequate price can be effected. The policy of leasing for a term of years, one or both of these improvements, has been more than once suggested. Of the propriety of so doing, I am not prepared to express a decided opinion, but have thought it worthy of a suggestion for your consideration.

That the public works should be unproductive, is owing in a great measure to a want of proper legislation on the subject, and unless this be remedied, it must impair public confidence in their ultimate utility. The Canal Commissioners have repeatedly urged upon the legislature the propriety of allowing the Commonwealth, alone, to carry passengers on the Columbia railroad. No railroad in the United States could sustain itself if it were to relinquish the carrying of the passengers, yet, on that road this strange condition of things is exhibited. The State has expended in its construction over four millions of dollars, while the capital employed by those carrying the passengers, is perhaps thirty thousand dollars. The State on her immense outlay, is reaping about three per cent. while the individual carriers on their thirty thousand dollars, are clearing nearly two hundred per cent. So it is, also, with regard to the transportation between Philadelphia and Pittsburg. That line of our improvement, between those cities, was constructed at a cost of a fraction over fourteen millions of dollars. The transportation on it, is monopolized by some seven or eight companies, employing a capital of less than four hundred thousand dollars; yet, while the State is receiving little more than will keep it in repair, the transporters are realizing immense profits, and that too, on a comparatively small outlay.

This can only be remedied by vesting the Canal Commissioners with full and ample authority to adopt such measures, as in their judgment, will be best calculated to enlist individual enterprise, and to invite competition, and to counteract the effects of the selfish and monopolizing system, that has controlled, and now controls, the transportation on our public works.

It may possibly be supposed that the Canal Commissioners possess adequate power already for this purpose, but this is to mistake the case. From the nature of that department of the government, it is always made the target at which the discontented and interested point their shafts. Not a session of the legislature passes without harrassing the commissioners with investigations,—the whole State is ransacked for accusers,—every act is questioned and misrepresented, and after all, the result is fruitless. The first instance is yet to be found, in which any thing tangible has been produced, or any salutary reform of the system effaced. Were the legislature to devote one session to an honest and thorough examination and correction of the abuses and defects of the system, without annoying and pursuing individuals for sinister ends, not openly avowed, much good would be produced; but, under any other mode of treating this subject, the issue must be as idle and frivolous as heretofore. I do not wish to preclude the most searching investigation. I merely desire to direct your attention in a channel that will be beneficial to the public.

One of the greatest evils of these frequent and frivolous investigations, is that they bring legislative investigations themselves into discredit. The persecution of the innocent, always furnishes a shield to the guilty.

It is now, throughout the country, a matter of idle sport to talk of these investigations. The mode by which they are brought about is well understood. A few dissatisfied contractors, and others, impose on the credulity and stimulate the ambition of some member of the Legislature to offer a petition, complaining of public grievances. A committee to investigate is appointed,—subpœnas are issued, and straightway, swarms of hungry confederates throng the seat of government, to prosecute their claims before the Legislature,—to lounge at the public expense, and join in a wholesale pillage of the treasury. At the close of the session the committee reports,—the witnesses return to their homes, and laugh at the trick, as they pocket the spoils. By reference to this subject, it will be found that a large portion of the legislative expenses, is incurred in this way. The extraordinary increase of these expenses, over those of all other departments of the government, has been of late years a matter of just complaint.

It becomes my duty, in the next place, to invite your earnest attention to the present condition of the banks, and currency of this State. It is a most lamentable fact, that, in relation to this subject, the greatest irregularity and disorder prevails. It is true, we have little, if any, of that wretched illegal trash, in circulation, which, during the early part of the last six years, infected all sections of the Commonwealth, in the forms of notes, checks, certificates, &c., &c., of corporations and individuals, for small sums, put forth without lawful authority, and in spite of the prohibitions of law; but we have, what is little better, a large amount of notes in circulation, ostensibly legal, and purporting to be of equal value, because founded on the faith of the State, by whatever bank issued, and yet, notwithstanding this fact, discredited and repudiated by the very institutions for whose benefit and relief they were authorised to be issued.

The act of the last session entitled, "an act to provide revenue to meet the demands on the treasury, and for other purposes," under the provisions of which, these small notes have been thrown into circulation, having become a law by the sanction of two-thirds of the Legislature, according to the forms of the Constitution, notwithstanding the objections of the Executive, I have exerted myself to the utmost, to see its provisions properly carried into effect. This was my duty, as the Executive, and I have faithfully performed it, agreeably to the best dictates of my judgment. I did hope that some of the evils which have resulted from it, might have been obviated, if it was enforced by me, and acted upon in a spirit of enlarged wisdom, by the banks themselves. This hope has been vain. The worst anticipations have been realized, and it is my duty to suggest such a remedy, as appears to me, to be best calculated to correct the grievances, under which the public labors.

By this act a loan of three millions one hundred thousand dollars was authorized, to pay specific appropriations made by the said act, and the several banks of the Commonwealth, subject to the payment of a tax on their dividends, were authorized to subscribe for the same, in certain proportions to the capital stock of each.

The whole amount of banking capital in the Commonwealth is,	$23,559,374
Banking capital not subject to a tax on dividends,	5,150,000
Banking capital subject to the payment of a tax on dividends,	$18,409,374

Of the banking capital subject to the payment of a tax on dividends, banks holding to the amount of $10,-836,145, did not accept of the provisions of the act of 4th May to provide revenue, and hence the capital of the banks which did accept of the provisions of the said act, amounted only to the sum of $7,573,229.

The whole amount of the loan taken by the accepting banks and paid into the treasury is $1,756,650 66, leaving the sum of $1,343,349 32, which has not been received.

On the 30th August, 1841, I accepted an offer of the Towanda Bank, to subscribe for an additional sum of one hundred thousand dollars of the said loan, and on the same day, I accepted an offer of the Erie Bank, to subscribe for an additional sum of three hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Of these offers the State treasurer agreed to accept from the Erie Bank, the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, and from the Towanda Bank the sum of thirty-seven thousand five hundred dollars. This bank did not accede to the proposition to accept a part of the sum offered, hence no part of the one hundred thousand dollars was received at the treasury. Thus it appears a very large portion of the banking capital, subject to the operation of this bill, has taken no part of the loan at all, and can, of course have no claim to indulgence under this law. Those banks which have complied, stand in a different position—their loans must be repaid before they can be forced to resume. It is an inquiry of much moment, whether the banks that have not complied with the requisitions of the law, ought not to be deprived of the advantages arising from the use of the notes issued by those that did.

After the most patient reflection on this subject, I am persuaded that the only effectual and certain remedy is, to repeal the act so far as relates to the issue of these notes, and to provide adequate means to discharge the loan on which they are based. To pay this loan, a six per cent stock might be authorized to be thrown into market, to sell for whatever it will produce. Should there be a small loss upon it, I am sure it will be deemed a very inconsiderable matter, compared with the inconvenience the people suffer from the present state of things. To remedy this, a sacrifice, to some extent, is inevitable.

Connected with the repeal of this law, should be the enforcement of specie payments by the banks. An early day should be fixed for this event, at least as early as the first of June. The time, however, is not so material, whether it be a few months sooner or later, so that a certain definite and reasonable time be fixed. Your action on this point, cannot be too prompt for the public interest. The community has been long enough held in suspense—let the final issue be at once presented, and it is to be hoped the people and the banks will be prepared for it when it arrives.

Those banks which are in a sound condition, will conform to the requisitions of the Legislature, without much embarrassment; and those which are not, will thus be brought to the touchstone of their merits. The first will sustain themselves, the latter must take their fate. As soon as the produce of the country has found its way to market in the spring, the people will be as able as at any other period, to endure whatever hardship results from this measure. I do not myself believe, that any inconvenience which can arise from it, will be greater, nor any thing like so protracted, as those which are felt by all classes now.

It seems to me it would be far better, to bring matters to a crisis at once, than to suffer under the slow, but death-like torpor that has already seized upon all. A very few may, possibly fall victims a little sooner, who could not escape in the end, but the community at large will ultimately experience effectual relief. Let rashness, violence and injustice be strenuously avoided, but no vain hopes, or empty theories should prevent a cool, calm contemplation of our duty, and a firm and unshaken discharge of it, without turning to the right hand or to the left. A suspension of specie payments is at variance with every principle of correct banking.

The forbearance hitherto extended to the banks has not been without its uses. It has enabled the banks to test their alledged ability, and to extricate themselves from their difficulties, and has added much to the stock of our experience. It has clearly demonstrated, that if the banks could not regain public confidence, under the indulgence they have received, the system on which they are founded is essentially unsound, and requires thorough amendment or extirpation. We have witnessed, too, under its influence the most extraordinary changes take place, without any sudden or general convulsion. A bank of thirty-five millions capital has exploded and gone down in the midst of us, comprehending within its sphere of business, the most extensive relations, both with individuals and with other banks, without making more than limited portions of the Commonwealth feel the blow with oppressive weight. Looking, therefore, at all these considerations, the indulgence heretofore given to the banks, furnishes the strongest reason in favor of the course I suggest, and fully justifies its adoption.

I have recommended to three several legislatures the propriety of selling the stock which the State owns in the Bank of Pennsylvania, the Philadelphia Bank, and the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank, and used every argument that I could bring to bear upon the subject, to convince them of the propriety of separating the Commonwealth from the banks, and of disposing of the stock she holds in them. I recommended it in a message, communicated on the 7th March, 1839, on which day the market price of the said stocks were, for the Bank of Pennsylvania, $496 for $400 paid; Philadelphia Bank $108½ for $100 paid, and the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank $62 for 50 paid. The same recommendation was again made on the 8th of January, 1840, at which time the following was the price of said stocks—for Bank of Pennsylvania $410; Philadelphia Bank $99½; Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank $54½. A similar recommendation was made 6th January, 1841, on which day the following sales were made, viz: for Bank of Pennsylvania $412; Philadelphia Bank $100; Farmers' and Mechanics' bank 52½, making the said stocks, held by the Commonwealth, worth $2,157,970. By the last sales made during the present month, the market value of those stocks are, for Bank of Pennsylvania $160; Philadelphia Bank $48; Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank $30; making the present total worth of those stocks $902,424; by which it is seen that by the course pursued by the last legislature, in refusing to authorize a sale, the loss sustained by the State, on those stocks, amounts to the formidable sum of $1,255,546. I renew the same recommendation to you, for the reasons given, from time to time, in my several communications on that subject.

Before I dismiss the subject touching the banks, I desire to call your attention to the policy of rechartering banks, by the legislature, during the present session, at all. When a charter for a bank has been granted to a number of individuals, for a fixed period of time, there is no express or implied obligation to renew it. On the contrary, the very limitation shows that its existence is to be terminated at the time designated. Its stockholders know this, and cannot complain if held to their bargain. The condition of banks never is known till they are wound up and closed. Their mode of doing business, enables them to defy public scrutiny, and to acquire a credit and standing to which they may not be justly entitled. Frauds and irregularities of years perpetration, are concealed from the eye of the public, till a final settlement of the concerns of the bank is made. Little knots of persons confederate and gather round these institutions,—reap the benefit of their existence,—monopolize their advantages, and perpetrate their power. We seldom find among them the energy, intellect and enterprise of the community, but those who derive their consequence from their combinations sanctioned and invigorated by the law. I cannot think such a system as this of perpetuating these corporations, congenial to our free institutions. It establishes monopolies of the most odious kind, because not limited in duration. If the business of the community really requires the aid of a bank, instead of renewing the charter of the one about to expire, establish a new one. Let its subscription books be open to all, and if it be advantageous, let all share in its enjoyment, who may choose to do so, and if not advantageous let all participate in bearing the burthen.

Besides, it is not a fit time to renew bank charters, or to establish new ones. The public mind is not settled on this subject, nor can we fully appreciate the soundness, or unsoundness, of the banking system until a resumption of specie payments takes place. Let the recommendations I have now submitted to you, be adopted, and let us wait a year at least to judge of their results. This experience will essentially aid future legislation, and perhaps rescue us from fatal errors. The history of the legislation of this Commonwealth, in regard to banks, is a succession of plausible theories; let us hereafter rest it on the solid basis of enlightened experience. Then may we hope to escape the rock, on which all our banks are now temporarily shipwrecked. I hope and trust most, if not all of them, are able to resume specie payments; but it is impossible to know this, or to confide in their ability and disposition to do so, until we have the proof, which they alone can furnish. The public has ceased to yield its credit to any corporate pretensions, which are not supported by corresponding acts. I have appended several tables connected with this subject, as affording matters of convenient reference.

The general subject of creating and regulating corporations, is so intimately blended with that of the banking institutions of the Commonwealth, as to claim a place next in our consideration. I have remarked in former messages, that the creation of corporations for all purposes, has been carried to a fearful extent in this State. Year after year they have been springing up around us on all sides, and are rapidly becoming competitors with individuals in all sorts of business. When confined to their legitimate purposes, such as the construction of canals and railroads into our fertile interior, and rich mineral regions, I shall not utter a word of complaint; but to this limit, strictly should they be restrained. The increase of corporations is a growing evil. I have again and again cautioned the Legislature against the granting of corporate privileges; I cannot too strongly impress this caution upon your minds. On referring to the acts of the last Legislature, we find the grant of corporate privileges to have been free and almost indiscriminate. So much so, that of 147 laws enacted, more than one-third were either acts of incorporation, or acts supplementary thereto. I adhere to the opinion, heretofore expressed, that corporations ought never to be created, where the object to be accomplished is within the probable reach of individual exertion. They absolve men from personal liability, and may tend, by undue combinations and concentrated action, to embarrass the operation of government, and interfere with the popular sovereignty. Let the present Legislature set the example of resisting these monopolising encroachments. If the propriety of this course was ever doubtful, the experience of a few years past has dissipated all doubt, and clearly marked out the path of duty.

On this subject, there is another matter which has been repeatedly brought under my notice. I allude to the extension of the authority to create corporations for various purposes, conferred on the courts of common pleas, by the 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th sections of the act of the 13th of October, 1840, entitled "An act relating to orphans' courts and for other purposes." Charters of incorporation are procured under this law, on application to the respective courts of common pleas, without being subjected to any other restraint or control, than their own hasty perusal. Notice, to be sure, is directed to be given, but that is of little avail. There is no common standard for the whole State, as was the case when these charters were to be approved by the Attorney General, and the judges of the supreme court, and enrolled in the department of State, at the seat of Government. Under the old system, there was uniformity in the provisions contained in these charters, but now, under this new law, the discretion of different courts may essentially differ, and ultimate confusion and disorder cannot fail to ensue. These domestic corporations, as they may be called, are of great service to the public, but it may be fairly questioned whether it will not detract from their uses, to render their creation a matter too ready and unchecked. I invite your attention to this subject, and if you should agree with me in opinion, it will be easy to remove all ground of complaint, by restoring the power of granting these charters, to the hands in which it has been safely lodged, for upward of half a century. The delay and inconvenience of the old system, were fully counterbalanced by the certainty, consistency and uniformity of the corporate powers and privileges enjoyed by the corporations created.

The Legislature, by the act of 16th June, 1836, conferred equity, or chancery powers on our supreme court, courts of common pleas and district courts, in certain specified cases. There are also certain other enactments, on the subject, in the 39th section of the act of 13th June, 1840, and perhaps in other acts. It is stated that some of the provisions of these various laws are incongruous, that the jurisdiction conferred is not expressly defined, and it has been decided by the supreme court, that the parties aggrieved have no redress by appeal from the inferior tribunal to the supreme court, or by writ of error from the latter to the former. If it be deemed advisable to retain the features of these enactments in our jurisprudence, it would seem requisite, that the evils complained of, should be removed by legislative enactment.

I would also recommend an examination into the State and condition of the extent and business of the several judicial districts of this Commonwealth, so that the amount of labor of the several President Judges, some of whom are at present overburdened, may be in some measure equalized.

There are complaints of the accumulation of business in the courts of the city and county of Philadelphia, and especially of the difficulty of reaching, in a reasonable time, the trial of causes at *nisi prius* in the supreme court. This last is said to arise from the time that the court is necessarily obliged to devote to the business in bank, where they have to decide appeals, and writs of error. Whether such complaints be well founded or not, I am not prepared to say. A careful examination into the whole subject, and such enactments as shall be found necessary to meet any evils that may exist in the administration of justice, and give to every one an opportunity of speedily trying his cause, is respectfully recommended.

It is often made the subject of complaint, that the decisions of the Supreme Court are not published under the supervision of a Reporter, appointed by authority of law. I think it is worthy your inquiry, whether the public interest would not be promoted, by providing for the appointment of such a Reporter, who shall be responsible to the public, for the manner in which he discharges his duty.

Complaints continue to be made in many counties of the manner of selecting jurors. Unless some additional guard be thrown around this inestimable right, public confidence in the trial by jury will be much diminished. This most wise, and venerable of all human and social institutions, must be guarded against the possibility of encroachments, and this long boasted bulwark of liberty, protected from prostitution to purposes not intended by the constitution. I therefore recommend that the jurors be annually selected by the judges of the Court of Common Pleas, or some two of them, together with the Sheriff, and that they be drawn by them in open Court, or that some other provision be made, that the trial by jury may be respected and effectually secured.

The laws relative to collateral inheritances imperatively call for revision, in order to insure the collection of money from that source. I respectfully recommend the adoption of the amendment suggested in a former communication, to enjoin it upon the registers of wills to inquire of all executors and administrators on oath, at the time of granting letters, whether the estate of their testator, or intestate, will be, in their opinion, the subject of the laws relative to collateral inheritances, and that the Register give notice of all such to the Attorney General, or his deputy, whose duty it shall be to make a record thereof, and enforce the collection, from time to time of the monies arising therefrom, and hand over his record to his successor in office.

The eighth section of the sixth article of the constitution provides, that all officers, whose election or appointment is not therein provided for, shall be elected or appointed as shall be directed by law. There has been no legislative action on this subject, so far as regards the offices of Surveyor General, Secretary of the Land Office and Auditor General, since the adoption of that instrument.—As the commissions of the present incumbents will expire on the 10th day of May next; it would seem to be a suitable time, for providing by law, for the tenure of those offices. They, with the Secretary of the Commonwealth, constitute what is usually denominated the cabinet, and the Executive is answerable to public opinion for the manner in which they perform their duties; yet under the existing laws he possesses no power of removing them, even for the most palpable dereliction of duty, during the time for which they are commissioned. I respectfully commend this subject to your attention, so that those officers be placed, as to tenure, on the same footing as the constitution has placed that of the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

So far as respects the office of Attorney General it seems proper that the tenure should remain as it is. It is in truth a common law office—the incumbent is the legal adviser of the Governor, and heads of departments, and is the legal hand by which the Executive functions are performed.

The duty will probably devolve on you to make provision for the election of representatives, to represent this State in the Congress of the United States. As soon as Congress shall have decided on the apportionment, according to the last census, no time shall be lost in laying the same before you.

The report of the Superintendent of Common Schools, will put you in possession of the state and condition of our colleges, academies, female seminaries and schools. The general evil, of which we have just cause to complain, is the incompetency of many of those employed as teachers. The compensation to them is generally low, and yet it is generally more than many of them earn as teachers, if the possession of knowledge and the capacity to impart it, be requisites for those entrusted with the moral and mental training of the rising generation. Upon this, and upon all other subjects connected with the important work of education, I must refer you to the report and documents which the Superintendent will furnish, and shall only remark, that I will most cheerfully co-operate in any and all measures, which shall place the means of acquiring a sound and practical education within the reach of all the children of the Commonwealth—elevate the character, and improve the qualifications of our teachers, and enlarge the usefulness, and increase the benefits to be derived from our colleges, academies and seminaries. A sound education, under proper moral and religious training, is the best legacy a parent can bequeath to his child, and the best provisions a patriot can make to secure the permanance of republicanism in its purity. To our system of common schools alone, can we look as the means of imparting this education; and on this system, at last, as the corner-stone, must we rest our free institutions, and our best hopes, to see them descend unshaken, to those who come after us.

The duties of the Superintendent of Public Schools have become so onerous, as to occupy almost the entire attention of the incumbent, and to leave him but little time to devote to the other duties of Secretary of the Commonwealth. I respectfully recommend this subject to your consideration, and whether a regard to the public interest does not require a separation of the duties of Superintendent, from that of the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

I cannot but repeat what I said in my first annual message, that we are in need of a proper system of school books, to be used in our schools, and which should be composed by competent persons for the instruction of the youths of Pennsylvania; such a course, as would tend properly to impress our youth with a due regard for our own Commonwealth, and endear her to their hearts. Her position, wealth and intelligence; the admirable and free system of her laws; her unwavering patriotism and devotion to republican principles; her distinguished philanthropy and benevolence, entitle her, in a pre-eminent degree, to the love and veneration of her children, who should be early taught to estimate her great characteristics.

The twenty-third section of the first article of the constitution of this Commonwealth provides, that "every bill, which shall have passed both Houses, shall be presented to the Governor. If he approve he shall sign it, but if he shall not approve, he shall return it, with his objections, to the House in which it originated, who shall enter the objections at large upon their journals and proceed to reconsider it." The section then proceeds to provide, that such bill, so returned, shall not become a law, unless two-thirds of each House shall, on a call of the yeas and nays, agree to pass the bill. This provision was inserted in our constitution of 1790, and retained in that of 1838, from a conviction of its use as well as necessity. It was intended for the protection of the people against hasty, improvident and improper legislation. The constitution, while it gives to the two Houses the right to prepare, to amend and pass the several bills, still makes the Executive an active constituent part of the legislative power. This concurrence, in acts of legislation, is required to be expressed in an approbation of the act proposed. When he conscientiously believes that the proposed measure is wrong, he would be reprehensible, were he to give an approbation he cannot feel. Deriving his power and authority directly from the people of the whole State, his interposition of the veto power, may be essentially necessary, to preserve the interest of the Commonwealth, from the operations of local causes. Whatsoever reasons, however, induced the imposition of this duty upon the Executive originally, it is enough to say, that the duty is enjoined in our organic law, and I believe wisely. It has been my lot, as well as that of all my predecessors, I believe, on several occasions, to exercise the power thus conferred. I have always done so with due deliberation, and only when the exigencies of the occasion furnished to me satisfactory and conclusive reasons for so doing. It is, however, a power which I have never hesitated to exercise, when duty required it at my hands. During the last session of the legislature, I was obliged to exercise this power oftener than heretofore. I did so, at a time, when my conduct was about to undergo the ordeal of public opinion, and there seemed to be a disposition to make the exercise of this power, an important issue before the people. That issue was had, and the result has expressed the voice of the public upon it, in a way not easily misunderstood.

Had the duty, thus enjoined by the constitution upon the Executive, been freely and fearlessly performed, in the early legislation upon the subject of our internal improvements, we should not now be involved in debt to the extent we are, and there would not have been millions of dollars expended upon works of doubtful utility, or of minor public importance. Our main and leading avenues of intercommunication alone, would have been constructed, and the State saved from all danger of being dishonored by failing to meet her engagements. Far be it from me to reflect on my predecessors, but it is our duty to gather wisdom from experience, and to avoid, as far as possible, the repetition of error.

In the months of June and August next, the commissions of the militia officers within this Commonwealth will expire by their own limitation. It would, therefore, seem to be a fit time to take up that very important, but much abused subject. One of our most important duties is to cherish and encourage the true military spirit among our citizen soldiers. In war, and in all trying emergencies, on them we must rely, chiefly, to protect our homes and firesides from aggression,—our national honor from insult,—and our liberty from destruction. It is too much the habit of some, who should know better, to decry and underrate our militia and volunteers. Those who remember their services in the revolution, and late war, with Great Britain, entertain a very different opinion. Let the organization of volunteer companies be promoted,—let them be furnished with arms and accoutrements,—let them devote all the time they can spare, to the acquisition of military discipline, and they will speedily silence the voice of censure and of prejudice, and strengthen the arm of our national defence.

A convention was held within the last season for the purpose of devising and recommending a more effective military system, and the result of their labors will shortly be laid before you; in relation to which I take occasion to say, that the opinions of that convention, combining as it does, much of the talent, experience and military knowledge of the country, will be entitled to, and doubtless will receive at your hands, the most respectful consideration. American freemen should never lose sight of the solemn injunction of the father of our country, "in time of peace prepare for war."

The geological survey of the State is nearly completed,—the past season having brought the explorations to a close. As soon as the field work can be reduced to shape, the State geologist will, this winter, enter upon the preparation of his general report, intended to embody the results of the whole survey. While the final report is in progress, the engraving of the maps and drawings, which will require time, and the arrangements of the State Cabinets, as far as they are in readiness, might be advantageously commenced. As a portion of the work can be put to press before the meeting of the next Legislature, it seems advisable that provision should be now made, for preparing and publishing the details. This very important survey, developing the nature and extent of our immense mineral resources, having been prosecuted steadfastly to its completion, sound policy and economy certainly require that the results should be embodied and published with all possible despatch.

To the enormous amount of capital invested in our various works of internal improvement, admonishes us to exert our utmost power, to render them productive. There is one matter connected with this subject, to which I desire to call your earnest attention. The experience of every year proves more clearly the necessity of our action upon it. I allude to the removal of obstructions from the channel of the Ohio river. The general government has several times directed its inquiries into this measure, but has never yet undertaken the effectual execution of the project. It is a measure in which Pennsylvania is most deeply, but not alone interested. The great and growing western and south-western States, embracing nearly the entire valley of the Mississippi and its tributaries, have a direct and abiding interest in its speedy completion, as well as Pennsylvania. For the important national purposes, of transporting the mail, for transferring armies, and conveying the munitions of war, it is of quite as great moment. Indeed it addresses itself to every duty, state and national, and appeals to every interest that should command the care and guardianship of both governments, in a manner not easily resisted.

Considering it, (as the legislative guardians of Pennsylvania,) we are constrained to urge it upon the general government, on grounds the most just and unanswerable. Cut off, as the navigable communication with our improvements, is, from Pittsburg to Louisville, for a large portion of the year, it diminishes the value of those improvements to a ruinous degree,—forces business upon other less direct and convenient routes, and, of course, operates to the serious disadvantage of the mercantile, agricultural, and manufacturing classes of our citizens. It is a singular and startling fact, that insurances on goods to be delivered at Cincinnati, are now effected in the city of Philadelphia cheaper and more readily, by the way of the New York canals, Lake Erie and the Ohio canal, than by the direct and natural route through our own improvements to Pittsburg. I learn that the whole difficulty in this particular, lies in the uncertainty of the navigable state of the Ohio river. Thus is a large share of business daily diverted from our public improvements, and the probability, nay the certainty is, that as regular lines of transportation are established on those collateral improvements, this diversion of business will be greatly augmented. We are most imperatively called upon to look to this matter before it is too late.

In the commencement of her stupendous system of public improvements, this State was induced to incur the vast liability she did, under a conviction that the trade and business of the west and south would afford an adequate return. It was on the general assurance that this would be secured to her, that she opened the highway to the sea-board for those rich and vast interior regions. Pennsylvania now relies on the sense of justice, which she knows will on this, as on all subjects actuate her sister States, in determining on a measure calculated to alleviate the burthen that is weighing down her citizens. Those States which, during the progress of our main line of improvements from Philadelphia to Pittsburg, looked upon it with an interest little less lively than our own, will, it is hoped, [illegible] lend their aid now in making [illegible] available in all practical seasons [illegible] completing the entire line of improvements begun in Pennsylvania, now when experience has [illegible] the necessity of this measure. I trust the [illegible] will exert its utmost efforts, to engage the national government in this work, which is so obviously [illegible] by its constitutional power, and by sound policy.

It is proper to mention two other measures of national policy in connection with this subject, in both of which this State has such an interest, as to justify the interposition of the Legislature. I speak in reference to the establishment of a National Foundry, and the construction of a Dry Dock at Philadelphia. The first of these has recently engaged the attention of Congress, and seems likely to be received with general favor. Not disparaging the claims of other sections of the country, we may without fear of contradiction on very rational grounds, assert on behalf of Pennsylvania the most conclusive reasons. Among these are, her central position, our contiguity to the sea board, our numerous and perfectly safe inland communications with almost every section of the Union, and above all, the deposits of coal and iron scattered throughout our borders, to an extent unknown in any other quarter of the world. We have in these every conceivable advantage, to recommend some point, perhaps in the valley of the Susquehanna, to the selection of Congress, as a site for a National Foundry; and the same reasons in point of location apply with equal force in favor of constructing a Dry Dock at Philadelphia. In addition to these its safety from the attacks of an enemy, its fresh water supplies, its convenience of procuring timber and workmen, all conspire to enforce its claims upon the notice of the General Government in the most convincing form. I will cheerfully co-operate with you in any manner deemed most advisable in impressing these considerations upon the National Government. If properly represented, I do not think they can be overlooked.

The recent convulsions in our commercial affairs have tended to the deep and lasting injury of this Commonwealth. I fear it will require years of industry, prudence and integrity, to wipe out the stain from our escutcheon, and to replace us on that solid, manly and proud footing we once occupied in the estimation of the world. The wild and heedless spirit of speculation, and stock gambling has brought disgrace to our doors, and stamped every thing depending on our business fidelity, with suspicion and discredit. This taint of character has extended too far. It has reached the whole community, when in truth it ought to have been confined to those only, whose folly, imprudence, or dishonesty gave color to the charge. The great body of our citizens are free from debt, have never engaged in ruinous fancy stock speculations, are abundantly able and willing to comply with all their obligations, to each other, and to the citizens of every other State or country. It is true our situation and habits of business have rendered us a debtor State, and subjected us to responsibilities, which might easily have been avoided under a different system of policy. We purchase large amounts of manufactured goods of all kinds from the eastern States, to consume ourselves, and to sell to the citizens of the south and south-west. We are liable on the failure of our debtors to pay for the commodities we purchased, and sold to them, and we of course must pay for those we use ourselves.—We can only discharge these debts in cash, or by selling to our eastern manufacturers, our coal and iron in their raw state. This very iron, in a thousand shapes, we purchase afterwards at an enormous advance for the labor bestowed on its manufacture, and thus become debtors for labor that we ought to perform ourselves. For leather, boots, shoes &c., cloths and other domestic manufactures, we are daily incurring immense debts to the citizens of other States, and are now, in the hour of our necessities, feeling the heavy hand of the creditor laid on all our resources.

This ought not to be. It is unworthy the great State of Pennsylvania to depend on the manufactures of other States or of foreign countries, to supply her citizens with those articles for the various purposes of life, which they can produce themselves as well, as cheaply, and as abundantly as any other people on the face of the globe. Our valleys teeming with plenty, our hills with exhaustless coal and iron deposits—our streams abounding with water power for all purposes, unsurpassed by that in any other country—and our citizens stimulated by enterprise and possessing means to render it effectual, should awaken in us that spirit of independence which disdains to seek at the hands of others that which it can furnish with its own. It is with no feelings of envy, or of local jealousy of others, that I bring this subject to your notice, but with an honest feeling of State pride, and a generous emulation, which should inspire us with a determination not to be indebted to others for those solid and useful means of promoting our prosperity and independence, which nature has bountously lavished on our own citizens.

The duty of encouraging manufacturing establishments, to convert to useful purposes our coal and iron, and indeed to supply all our domestic wants, has become one of peculiarly imperative obligation. The commercial calamity under which we are suffering, has been so much heightened by the circumstances to which I have just adverted, and the inability of our citizens to perform all their contracts has been so greatly exaggerated by the interested and malicious in other States, that self-respect, as well as public spirit, calls upon us most emphatically to turn a kind and cherishing eye to their advancement. Every measure that can conduce to this end, will meet my most hearty concurrence. I think inquiries on this subject should be instituted. We want facts as the basis of legislative encouragement. Let them be diligently sought for, and when ascertained, let them be promptly applied to some useful purpose. It is high time the Legislature of Pennsylvania should remember that the interest of Pennsylvania are confided to their especial care. It is a source of pride and gratification to reflect, that but a small amount of the indebtedness to other States, which is now griping and annoying us, is for commodities disposed of to our own citizens. Nearly every dollar of this domestic debt has been faithfully paid. The sum now due, is for sales made to purchasers in the west and south-west, for whom Pennsylvanians are in truth merely to be regarded as the guarantors. This circumstance is entirely overlooked by our detractors, who are attempting to hold the citizens of Pennsylvania to a rigid accountability, as if she were the very *pack-horse* of the Union to bear more than her share of all its burthens and responsibilities. This is unjust—we owe it to ourselves to assume our true position.

Permit me fellow-citizens, in conclusion, to urge upon you a thorough and searching inquiry into all abuses of government and all expenditures of the public money, which are not clearly warranted by enlightened prudence. The condition of the public treasury demands this at your hands,—and the people confidently trust, that those to whom they have confided the guardianship of their interests, will faithfully perform the duty both of inquiring into, and correcting all the evils they find to exist. It will afford me great pleasure to co-operate with you in the completion of this salutary work. We may meet for a time with obstacles,—we will doubtless encounter resistance on the part of those who are interested in perpetuating either abuses or extravagance; but ultimately, we cannot fail to triumph over all difficulties, and to carry into effectual practical operation the great principles of economy and reform,—the only true and solid basis on which those who administer the affairs of republican governments, can rest their claims to popular confidence and support.

DAVID R. PORTER.

Executive Chamber, 5th January, 1842.

Message of Governor of Iowa.

This document is short. It recommends to the Legislature an appeal to Congress for an appropriation to remove the obstruction to the navigation of the Upper Mississippi, and insists that the river navigation of the West is as much entitled to the aid of the General Government as the improvement of Eastern harbors, bays, and rivers. He says that the loss of property on the Rapids during a few years, added to the increased price of freight, is equal to the amount necessary to cut a channel through their whole extent.

Paper Trade of the U. States.

According to an estimate recently made at a Convention of Paper Makers, the machinery and paper mill property at the present time in the United States, are valued at $16,000,000—the paper manufactured amounts to $15,000,000 per annum—the raw stock collected in the United States, to about $6,000,000 per annum, and the amount of stock consumed is stated at about 175,000,000 pounds. From fifty to sixty thousand persons are employed in the various operations connected with the trade for a livelihood.

City Loan.

Amid the general outcry against stocks, we are glad to find that the city of Philadelphia enjoys an excellent reputation with its fundholders. A loan of the city became due a year or two since,—but a part of it was renewed on account of the situation of the Banks. The loan is again due, and the city now comes forward with an offer to pay the loan, in gold or silver, or its equivalent. But the holders of the loan seem in no hurry to receive their money. This is a rare thing in these times of panic.

The Raritan.

A large number of mechanics are employed in finishing this vessel; she has been on the stocks nearly twenty two years. Owing to the delay on the part of the government in having her completed, some of her timbers have been sadly impaired; an entire new keel has to be put in her. She is so constructed as to induce us to believe that there will be very few frigates in our service who can compete with her so far as sailing is concerned.

Converts to Catholicity.

Among the recent distinguished converts to the Romish faith, is the Rev. Mr. Vanbrugh Livingston, of the Episcopal Church. He is well known for his defence of the Oxford Theology, Puseyism, and for a reply to Bishop McIlvaine. Two sons of the Rev. Dr. Cox, a Presbyterian Clergyman, have recently been ordained into the Service of the Pope of Rome.

Justice Wiley.

This individual who was tried lately in New York for being an accomplice after the fact of the robbers of the Frederick county Bank, has been found guilty. This is as it should be. When a magistrate stoops to participate in crime for the purpose of emolument, it is time that the outraged laws should be avenged.

Governor of Maryland.

The inauguration of Gov. Thomas, of Maryland, took place on Monday. In his inaugural address, Gov. T. said that as the Executive did not constitute a part of the Legislative power, it was hardly necessary for him to declare his views on any question which now agitated the public mind.

Boston Fires.

During 1841, the fire department in Boston, was called out 136 times—26 being false alarms. The engines were used but at 16 fires, and 34 fires were extinguished without the aid of the engines. The amount of the property destroyed was $38,000; insured $27,000.

From Buenos Ayres.

The Boston Patriot contains a letter from Buenos Ayres, from which we glean the following intelligence:

General Acha, having in command a remnant of about two hundred infantry, was overcome, taken, and executed, about the 20th of August last, near the city of San Juan, by about six hundred men under the command of Benevides, (Federalists.) Acha's head was cut off and placed in public, for exhibition. San Juan has by this defeat, passed into the hands of the Federalists.

On the 19th ult. General Oribe, with twenty three hundred men at Monte Grand, province of Tucuman, gained a complete victory over General Lavalle, having an army of about eighteen hundred men, in which Lavalle, and a few of his followers only, escaped with difficulty in the direction of Bolivia, having lost all his infantry, artillery, a large quantity of war stores, and even his baggage, leaving six hundred men dead on the field—many wounded, and a large number taken prisoners, among whom was Colonel Borda, who was executed on the spot. The loss of Gen. Oribe is represented as inconsiderable—one ensign killed, and three or four officers wounded.

General Pacheco (Federalist) with three thousand troops, at Rodeo del Medio, near Mendoza, on the 24th ult. defeated General La Madrid with a considerable force. The battle lasted three hours. Pacheco lost eighteen killed, and had eighty wounded. La Madrid fled to the Cordilleras, leaving behind him four hundred killed, five hundred taken prisoners, nine pieces of artillery, four flags, his horses and provisions. Among the killed were six commanding, and sixty-seven subordinate officers. La Madrid, with about two hundred followers, it is supposed will perish among the snow and ice of the Andes. Mendoza has thus fallen to the victors.

These successes of the Federalists, if as grand as they are represented, will no doubt give them a permanent ascendency in the west and upper provinces.

General Echague, in Entre Rios, has commenced his march upon Corrientes, to attack the army of General Paz, who is now the most formidable enemy of General Rosas and of the Federal cause. General Rivera, President of the Banda Oriental, has left Montevideo precipitately, and, it is supposed, with designs to cross the Uruguay, to divert Echague or attack him in the rear.

Admiral Coe, with his fleet, was off this port a few days since, but has returned to Montevideo, where he is fitting another vessel, purchased by his Government, to add to the squadron. This Government has purchased a Danish vessel, fitted as a man of war, which will add considerable to the force of Admiral Brown.

The Mandarin Massacre.

The St. Augustine News furnishes the following account of the recent Indian Massacre, at Mandarin:

On Friday last, (or a few days previous,) a party of 21 Indian warriors came into the neighborhood of the Mandarin settlement, which is situated on the east bank of St. Johns, 29 miles north of this city, and 15 miles above Jacksonville.

After reconnoitering the various plantations, they on Monday afternoon caught a negro belonging to Mr. William Hartley, who was out squirrel hunting, and at evening proceeded towards the settlement for the purpose of plundering the store, but as the negro told them there were many men in that direction, they turned back to the Hartley neighborhood, which is near Julington creek, and about four miles from the St. Johns, and from which they had seen the men depart, who were gone on a gunning party of two days.

Approaching the house of William Hartley, they put the negro forward, and as he came to the door, they fired three rifles, killing Mrs. Hartley, and her child of a year old, and Mr. Domingo Accosta. A Mr. Mulphus, also in the house, was shot—he ran for the pine barren, and there died. The infant was killed by the ball which killed the mother.

They then proceeded to the other plantations while the alarmed inhabitants managed to escape from their houses, as though by a miracle. The houses of Nathaniel and George Hartley were successively visited, plundered and burned, with the outbuildings—they then returned to the house of William Hartley, which they also plundered and fired; the bodies of his wife and child and of Mr. Accosta were consumed.

The Indians still detaining the negro as a prisoner, next proceeded to a division of the plunder and money they had taken—they remained about the premises till towards morning, and then retired.

The other inhabitants of Mandarin, when the alarm reached them, were too fully employed, each in placing his own family in safety, (many were put on board a schooner which lay at anchor off the place,) to think of combining for offensive operations.

More Murders in Florida.

The Indians made their appearance on the morning of the 20th ult., within three miles of Mandarin, near the St. Augustine road, burned a house, and murdered the whole family, consisting of a Mr. Hartly, wife and child. They were destroyed in the flames. Where are the troops? It appears that Indians can be found somewhat nearer than the everglades.

We further learn that a Mr. La Costa, was also killed. The Indians burned three houses, and carried off several negroes, one of whom escaped. It is said that the Indians numbered twenty-one, and were supposed to be a part of Halleck Tustenuggee's tribe.

Lt. Col. Riley returned to Palatka on the 21st, from his expedition to the head waters of the St. Johns. He had discovered no Indians. Col. Worth is at Tampa. A company of regulars was to be sent from Fort King to Jacksonville in quest of the Indian mercenaries.

The steamer Col. Harney has gone to Key Biscayne, to take the Indians recently come in at that post to the West.

A correspondent at St. Augustine writes as follows:

St. Augustine, Dec. 22, 1841.

Last night a negro man arrived at Picolata from Mandarin, and reported that some three or four persons had been murdered near that village. At 5 o'clock this morning, Lt. Judd, of the 3d artillery, commanding the company stationed here, left with all the men he could muster, twenty in number, for the purpose of ascertaining the correctness of the report, and if true, to find the Indians, if possible. In haste, yours, &c.

Profitable Vineyard.

The Louisville Journal states that the vineyard of J. Davis, Esq. of one acre and a half in extent, produced this year 1170 gallons of the pure juice of the grape. In Europe 400 to 500 gallons per acre are considered an extraordinary yield.

Sore Throat, Coughs, Consumption, Pains in various parts of the body, and other unpleasant symptoms, are the usual effects of catching cold.

Wright's Indian Vegetable Pills are a delightful medicine for carrying off a cold; because they purge from the body all morbid and corrupt humors in so easy and natural a manner, that the body is relieved of every kind of suffering as if by magic. From three to six of said Indian Vegetable Pills, taken every night on going to bed, will in a short time make a perfect cure of the most obstinate cold,—at the same time the blood and other fluids will be thoroughly purified, and the constitution so completely invigorated, that the body will be restored to even sounder health than before. For sale at 198 Tremont street, Boston. No. 288 Greenwich street, New York; and No. 169 Race Street, Philada.

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Jan 8-tf

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ELLEN GROVE, and other Tales.—The Lady's Annual of THIS DAY is a splendid number, filled entirely with ORIGINAL ARTICLES: among the contents are "Ellen Grove," by Mrs. Phelon; "The Sea side," by Mr. English; [illegible] "Lara," by Mrs. Gardiner; [illegible] "The Widow [illegible]"; [illegible] Single number [illegible] $10 00 [illegible]

A NEW VOLUME [illegible] advise persons to subscribe early. Each number contains two [illegible].

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☞ Post Masters are requested to act as agents.

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"In the temple of peace and independence, which you, sir, seek to turn into a den of strife and bloodshed."

"Excellent! beautiful! sentiment and eloquence combined!" exclaimed the coxcomb, but we shall have plenty of food for the gallows by and bye. I am now on my way to the royal camp with despatches; I shall not fail to report my reception here. It was my intention to have passed the night here, but I fear my life would be the penalty before morning. Good night, my bonny rebel. Miss Dayton, your servant. You shall be well taken care of," said the villain, significantly, and he proceeded to quit the dwelling.

A clattering of horses' feet was now heard on the road, and glimpses of military costume discernible occasionally through the trees in the last rays of evening. Shouts and laughter also broke nearer and nearer upon the ear, 'till a young man dashed up the avenue, followed by two others. "Father!" shouted he as he leaped from his steed, and rushed up the porch. "Father, our arms are victorious—our country is free. Liberty is proclaimed throughout the land—tyranny has perished!" and he fell upon the breast of Peter.

"Mien boy! mien boy!" cried the old man, "welcome to your fader's heart."

"And to his mother's also," said the old dame, who clasped him to her arms, and covered his manly cheek with kisses.

Dayton stood paralyzed. The two others approached.

"Bid welcome to my companions in arms," said young Walter Deuchaten—"Mr. Benton and Henry Walworth."

"Oh! God, my father," screamed Caroline, and fell senseless upon the floor. In the next moment she was in the arms of her father, and Henry hanging over her affectionately.

"Not so fast, mien very *good friend*," said Peter to Dayton, seizing him by the collar, for he was sneaking away; "not so fast. Here are a few of your favorites, der *rebels*; how like you der appearance?"

Dayton spoke not a word, and Caroline reviving, was embraced tenderly by Henry; when looking round her, as almost waking from a dream, she beheld Dayton. "Ah! he here?" exclaimed she. "Thank Heaven, I am now safe from his persecution," and she sobbed bitterly on her lover's bosom.

"From whom, my Caroline?" inquired Henry.

"From his, that bad man, Dayton, who led me to believe that you were numbered with the slain, and by whose machinations and those of his father's, I was this morning driven from my home."

"Villain!" exclaimed Benton—and at the same moment Walworth demanded why he had thus acted, Dayton could not reply, but he stood a trembling and guilty thing.

"But he has despatches," said Peter, "for the enemy."

"We have no enemies now," said Walworth; "peace is proclaimed, but let us see what is their import; produce your papers, Mr. Dayton."

"Never," cried Dayton, as he pulled a pistol from his pocket—"never, but at the sacrifice of life."

"Rash man!" said Walworth, "resistance is in vain; deliver them quietly; no harm shall befal you, I pledge my honor."

Dayton replied not, but making one bound from the porch to the ground, he mounted one of the horses of the party, and dashing his spurs up to the rowels in the flanks of the animal, like a flash of lightning sped up the avenue, then turning in his saddle, he discharged his pistol, the ball of which slightly grazed the breast of Peter. The rifle was yet in the hand of the old man, which he had seized to discharge at Dayton, when he was prevented by his wife and Caroline. "Tyfil—traitor—craven," he shouted, and the short quick crack of the piece succeeded the exclamation. A shrill cry was heard, Dayton was seen to spring into the air, and falling from the horse, was dragged along by the foot in the stirrup for a considerable distance. When discovered, he was a mutilated mass; the ball had entered his temple, and the blood flowing freely, his countenance was clotted with gore and dust, presenting a hideous appearance. His obsequies were brief—a pit dug by the road side received his remains. On examining his papers, they were found to contain secret information for the enemy, but they would have proved of no avail, as the surrender of Cornwallis had established the reign of Freedom. The next day, Benton, with Caroline, accompanied by Walworth, departed for his home, which for many years he had not beheld. His appearance, it may be supposed, was unexpectedly unwelcome to old Dayton, who received a prompt and imperative demand to surrender up his estates and effects to the American government, as one who had long been noxious to their cause. Between Walworth and Benton, they were divided, in consideration of their long and dangerous struggles in the emancipation of their native land, and Caroline, according to her promise, bestowing her hand upon Walworth, lived to behold her daughters, beautiful and virtuous as their mother, and her sons inheriting the bravery and patriotism of their sire.

SATURDAY POST.

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
GEORGE R. GRAHAM & CO.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 1842.

Acknowledgment.

We give our thanks to a large number of the subscribers of the Post, for the very handsome manner in which remittances have been made to us, for some time past, and for the quality of the funds, in which they have been made. We shall endeavor on our part to do justice to them in turn.

A word to those still in arrears. We shall be much obliged for a speedy settlement, as the volume is now opened, and we wish to start, unincumbered by *back balances*. Let the accounts all be settled up, and we will take a *fair start* together and see who shall first tire in the race. *We shall continue to issue a splendid paper.*

☞ Mr. S. W. Fullerton, Jr. will act as agent at Newburgh, Orange county, New York, for the S. E. Post and Graham's Magazine.

☞ J. Warren, P. M. at Washington, Miss. is agent for the Post and Magazine.

☞ James McLaurin, of Haverstraw, New York, is *not* our agent for any of our publications.

Witchcraft.

The progress of intelligence is gradually removing one after another of the superstitions of the people; and among them the belief in witchcraft is fast disappearing, if it has not already grown into discredit. It is true, in some of the rural districts, a few believers in witchcraft may still be found, but the good sense of the people and the march of education are fast dispelling this superstition.

It is astonishing how universal the belief in witchcraft was scarcely two hundred years ago, and prior to that time a panic on this subject prevailed to an alarming extent in Europe. We can hardly credit in this age the number of persons who fell victims to the laws against witchcraft. In the latter part of the sixteenth century, hundreds, nay thousands of persons were put to death by the most extreme torture, in France, Germany, Spain and throughout all Europe, under the imputation of witchcraft. Even in England the panic prevailed to a considerable extent. In 1612 in Lancashire, twelve persons were executed for this imputed crime, and in 1644, in the same county, seventeen more were put to death for the same offence. The whole land was convulsed with the trials for this crime. Nearly a hundred persons were executed on the information of a wretch, by the name of Matthew Hopkins, who followed the occupation of a witch hunter. Strange to say the pious Richard Baxter believed in this delusion, and even recommended what he called the zeal of the infamous Hopkins. During the protectorate of Cromwell great numbers were executed for witchcraft. Both Sir Matthew Hale and Chief Justice Holt presided at the trials of individuals who were subsequently burned or hung for this crime. The most learned, as well as the best men of the age believed in witchcraft; and Sir Thomas Browne, the author of the "*Religio Medici*," unhesitatingly declared his belief in witchcraft and entered into a discussion on the subject. Not less than two thousand persons are supposed to have been hanged or burned for this crime, in the British isles, during the seventeenth century.

Our own country cannot plead an exemption from this phrensy. William Penn presided at the trial of a witch in Pennsylvania, but happily the woman escaped through an informality of the indictment. As late as 1742—if we recollect aright—a woman was executed on the Hudson for being a witch. The earliest history of the Puritans presents instances of witches being executed, and in nearly every case the miserable victims died protesting their innocence. At Springfield, at Charlestown, at Dorchester, at Cambridge, at Boston, in almost every one of the old towns of New England, men and women have perished on the gallows or died shrieking in flames, for the fictitious crime of witchcraft. The Salem excitement arose in 1692, and, for a while, raged with uncontrollable fury. During this fearful phrensy the charge of witchcraft blanched the cheeks of the bravest, for it was a sure forerunner of an ignominious death. We can scarcely credit, at this day, the histories of that memorable excitement. It has left a lasting stain on the reputation of the Puritans.

A philosophic enquirer into the causes of this excitement would grope long in the dark before he could arrive at any conclusion. The actors in the matter were generally good men, and honestly believed in witchcraft. They were not behind their age. They did not invent the facts on which their belief was founded. The knowledge of this has puzzled most writers on the subject. But we think that the elucidation of the mystery is to be found in the credulous nature of the leading characters in this excitement, and in the fact that every popular excitement acts and re-acts on itself until men are hurried into acts, which even they, in their cooler moments, would be glad to disavow. And that such was the case in the Salem excitement is evident from the rapidity with which it died after it received a check, and men began to cool. It disappeared as if by magic. It went out like a flash of lightning, leaving, however, traces, in the blackened and scarred soil, of its terrific progress.

We live in a brighter day. Superstition is fast rolling up and disappearing before the light of universal education. The belief of our forefathers in witchcraft finds few disciples, and those few are compelled, by the force of public opinion, to keep their creed silent. When we reflect how much misery has been brought upon the world, by the belief in this fictitious crime, we cannot but rejoice, like Miriam, over our enfranchisement.

Further News from Santa Fe.

We are indebted to the St. Louis Republican for an account of the capture of the Santa Fe expedition, and the oppressions inflicted on the prisoners. That journal justly remarks that "the recital of the treatment shown the American citizens will rouse the blood of every one."

The information from Santa Fe was brought to Independence, Mobile, by a party from the Mexican settlements. It appears that information had been forwarded to Don Manuel Armego, both from Mexico city, and from General Arista, commanding the Northern Mexican Army, of the departure of the Texians from Austin, in June. Much anxiety pervaded the Mexican population; and such was the conviction of the Governor (Manuel Armego) that the Texians would carry the country, that he made his will, and secreted his own treasure on that of the wealthiest citizens.

On the 8th of September, Mr. Howland, a Texian officer, accompanied by Mr. Roseberry and Baker, reached Santa Fe, and on the 11th a Comanchee brought information that the Texian Force had reached the eastern settlements. Mr. Howland was ordered to remain eight days in Santa Fe, but finding himself suspected of being a Texian spy, left with his companions on the evening of the 12th. On the 15th, an Italian, accompanied by a Mexican, (a citizen of Texas) arrived and were imprisoned. The Italian gave exaggerated accounts of the force and intentions of the Texians. During the fourteenth, fifteenth and sixteenth the Mexican militia passed through Santa Fe, going out to meet the Texians. On the 16th, the Governor ordered all the foreigners to confine themselves to Santa Fe, and departed himself for the seat of war. On the 18th, news arrived that Colonel Juan Andres Archuleta, at the head of the Mexican militia, had met the advance corps of the Texians, under Colonel Cook, (eighty-three men and seven officers,) at Antonchancho, seventy-five miles from Santa Fe. Negotiations were attempted to be held on the part of the Texians, wherein Navarro represented, on the part of the Texians, that their objects were to invite the New Mexicans to unite themselves to the Texian Republic. The answer was that the Texians must surrender or fight—and they eventually surrendered, without firing a gun, on condition that their lives should be secure.

On the 7th of October, news arrived of the surrender of Colonel McCloud, and the main body of the Texians, two hundred in number, some fifty miles in the rear of position of Colonel Cook. On the 27th of September, the Mexicans celebrated their victory at Vegas, the frontier settlement on the road to the United States. The Texians were stripped of their arms, property, and shoes. These were thrown into a pile in the public square, and distributed among the militia by the Governor himself. The proclamations, &c. found about the Texians, in the Spanish language, were thrown into a bonfire, and the prisoners and foreigners bound, driven up, and compelled to witness it. Among these documents burnt was the passport of Mr. Kendall, (the editor of the New Orleans Picayune,) who, with some twelve traders, were taken with Cook's party. These gentlemen had been confined at San Miguel until the capture of McCloud's party, when they were likewise stripped, and turned into the common crowd of prisoners. The whole number of prisoners was three hundred and four, who were immediately marched off in a gang, barefooted and half naked to the city of Mexico, a distance of two thousand miles—at a season when the frost was severe and the weather inclement! The conduct of the Mexicans is represented as savage and ferocious in the extreme toward the defenceless prisoners, and to have extended, in many instances, to the foreigners residing in the country. Mr. Howland and his companions who had retreated from Santa Fe, were overtaken by a party of Mexicans, near the river Pecos, where Roseberry was killed. Howland and Baker being brought to the Governor, were by his order, shot, without trial, as Texian spies.

On the 16th of October, before his departure from Santa Fe, Armego, the Governor, wrote to the American Consul, ordering the foreigners to confine themselves within the town for twenty days. After his departure, the nephew of the Governor, who is also his confidant and secretary, accompanied by a sergeant and soldier, and followed by a mob, attacked the house of the American Consul, burst into it, and wounded him severely in the face. Threats were made by the rabble against the American citizens, and many were arrested and thrown into prison, from which, on the return of the Governor, they were released. After attacking the American Consul, the mob proceeded to the jail, where their leaders stabbed the Mexican (from Texas) who had been arrested with the Italian on the 15th.

Mr. Alvarez, the United States Consul, states that most vindictive feeling was exhibited against himself, and the American citizens resident in New Mexico. He applied, on the 2d of October, for his passport to proceed to the United States, which was refused until the 25th, it being the premeditated design to delay him so late as to expose him to perish, on his long journey by the depredations of the Indians or the inclemency of the weather. Mr. Alvarez left Santa Fe with sixteen men and sixty-seven horses and mules. Five of his companions parted from him at the Arkansas to make their way to Fort Gibson and Texas—one (John Richmer) was frozen to death; three were left sick among the Kansas Indians, one being frozen in his feet; and, of the sixty-seven herd of animals, forty-eight perished, owing to the lateness of the season.

Of the cause of the rapid and disastrous termination of the Texian expedition, it appears that some dissensions had broken out among the Texians on their route. Nineteen of their numbers had been killed by the Camanches, and some forty of their horses destroyed. During the parly held previous to the surrender of Col. Cook's corps, a division appears to have existed among his men. The larger portion listening to the suggestions of Navarro and Lewis for a surrender, and but seven siding in opinion with the commander, who wished to fight and die rather than surrender. It is said that Navarro reproached the Mexicans with the murder of Fanning's command, upon which a verbal promise was given that their lives should be saved. Col. Cook, it is said, tore the epaulets and buttons from his coat, and broke his sword, expressing the most vehement denunciations against the treachery by which he was paralized.

The Mexicans spoke of him as brave and indomitable. What privations may have been endured by the Texians, during a march of three months are not known, but it is the opinion of all that if a proud spirit had been exhibited by the Texians, and a battle fought, victory would have been easy, and the country submitted without resistance. The promptness with which the Mexicans marched to meet the invading force, probably surprised them, as Howland had missed them in his retreat, and they were ignorant of the condition of affairs in New Mexico.

The conduct of the Mexicans to the resident foreigners were insolent enough—and the names of four American citizens are given who have been murdered, without the perpetrators being brought to justice. This arises from a wish to expel the American traders, that the natives may monopolize all the business.

Destructive Fire.

A destructive fire occurred at Medina, N. Y. on Saturday, which destroyed $25,000 worth of property. The following exhibits the names of the sufferers, the amount of property destroyed, and the amount insured:—

Owners of the Eagle Tavern, $9,000, no insurance; J. D. Foot, $3,500, insurance 2,500; H. & J. H. Goodrich, $100, no insurance; Vibbard & Northrop, $1000, insurance $1000; A. Norton, $250, no insurance; C. Hill, $2500, insurance 1500; C. S. Parks, $6000, insurance 4000; Fuller & Spencer, $100, no insurance; E. Bent, $800, insurance 300; B. Fairman, $800, insurance 400; R. Martin, $300, no insurance; G. R. Lewis, $250, no insurance.

American Consuls.

A recent case of alleged murder on board of an American ship was brought before the London Magistrates, who discharged the prisoner and referred the case to the American Consul.

Fortunately for the end of justice the Consul was acquainted with the law of nations and the laws of his country and acted accordingly. None but men of the first talent and education should be appointed Consuls.

Gov. Seward's Message.

The Legislature of New York met at Albany on Tuesday last. The Houses were speedily organized. Mr. J. S. Chatfield of Otsego was chosen Speaker of the House.

The Message of Gov. Seward was transmitted to the Legislature on Tuesday. An express from the New York Sun carried the message to New York city in eight hours and fifty-five minutes running time. As the message is lengthy we content ourselves with an abstract and a few quotations.

The Governor speaks of the Asylum for the Insane, which he says is ready for the reception of its inmates; of the Geology of the State, the Mission to Holland, and the Dispute with Virginia and Georgia. In regard to the demand of the Governor of Virginia for the surrender of three persons claimed as fugitives from justice, and to repeal the law extending the trial by jury, the Governor re-iterates his conviction of the illegality of the requisition, and says the Legislature will "decide whether the trial by jury shall be relinquished, and whether a State which acknowledges no natural inequality of men, and no political equality which may not ultimately be removed, shall wrest that precious shield from those only whose freedom is assailed, not from any wrong doing of their own, but because the greatest of all crimes was committed against their ancestors."

Nineteen Associations under the General Banking Law, and five Safety Fund Institutions have been closed. To guard hereafter against fraudulent excesses of circulation, he suggests that the Safety Fund Institutions may be required to receive their circulating notes from the Bank Commissioners or the Comptroller.

He calls the attention of the Legislature to the re-organization of the Congressional Districts.

He speaks at length upon the School Fund question. Twenty thousand children in the city of New York, of suitable age, are not at all instructed in any of the public schools, while the whole number in all the residue of the State, not taught in Common Schools, does not exceed nine thousand. For the purpose of removing complaints arising from prejudices against the School System of New York City, he proposes to restore to the Common Schools of the City the simple and equal feature of the Common Schools of the State.

"To vest the control of the common schools in a board, to be composed of commissioners elected by the people, which board shall apportion the schools moneys among all the schools including those now existing, which shall be organized and conducted in conformity to its general regulations and the laws of the State, in the proportion of the number of pupils instructed."

The revenues of the State exhibit a progressive increase.

"The amount derived from auction duties was $206,703, being an increase of $42,000 over the corresponding revenues in the previous fiscal year. The amount received by the superintendent for duties on the manufacture of salt, was $194,216, being more than was received in the previous year by $36,000.

The income from all the counties during the season of navigation, was $2,340,878, exceeding the tolls of the previous year by $259,131, equal to 14,15-100 per cent. The tolls in 1831 were $1,223,801.

The revenue of all the canals during the fiscal year, after deducting only the expenses of collection and ordinary repairs, was $1,551,098. The permanent public debt, at the close of the last fiscal year; exclusive of temporary loans, contingent liabilities, and the balance of the Erie and Champlain canal debt, for the payment of which equivalent funds are set apart, $15,540,530, to which must be added temporary loans amounting to $1,655,000, annually payable thereon, 530, and the interest annually including also interest on the stocks loaned to the railroad companies which are in default, is $919,704. The debts consist of stocks chiefly redeemable in 1845, 1850, 1855 and 1860. The amount of stocks issued to the Delaware and Hudson Canal Company, and railroad companies, is $5,035,700. You will, of course, give immediate attention to proper measures for reimbursing temporary loans."

He advocates the enlargement of the Erie Canal, and the completion of the Erie Railroad and other improvements, and as a proof of the fiscal ability of the State, refers to the untaxed wealth of the people, equal to seven hundred millions of dollars. This part of his message concludes thus:

"Since the works were undertaken, the rate of interest demanded upon loans to the State has advanced from five to about seven per cent. Prudence, under such circumstances, counsels moderation—yet the value of money has not increased as much as the price of labor and subsistence have fallen—and it would certainly be the worst of all economy to discontinue enterprises so important for a season so inadequate, or to sacrifice, in delays and damages, more than the additional cost resulting from the enhanced rate of interest.

While we ought, therefore, to pursue the undertakings cautiously, and even at some apparent although unreal sacrifice, we are, nevertheless, required to put forth every effort to restore our public stocks to their former value. Such efforts, however, would prove unavailing, if the evil were misunderstood. We are in competition with other States and counties in borrowing money. The securities of other nations are not depreciated, while those of our sister States, whether they owe less or more, are reduced none less than our own, some 30, 40, 50, 60 and 70, and even 80 per cent.

The Federal Government, which has once paid absolutely a debt of $189,000,000, and which now owes nothing, is unable at the same rate of interest we offer, to obtain a loan for three years of an amount equal to only half a year's revenues. Is it true then that the depreciation of our stocks has resulted from the greatness of our debt, or from the magnitude of our undertakings, or from any fiscal unsoundness or error? On the contrary, it is apparent that our stocks are depressed by some general cause affecting all governmental securities.

* * * * * *

But although the causes affecting our public securities are beyond the reach of direct efforts, we can, nevertheless, mitigate the evil and contribute to a remedy. It is an urgent duty to fortify our credit, not merely for the purpose of securing a discrimination in our favor, but also to furnish an encouraging example to our sister States. I suggest, with a view to this purpose, a rigid adherence, under all circumstances, to the rule hitherto observed, that the whole public debt shall not be raised above such an amount as that its interest cannot be paid out of the current surplus revenues of the canals; and to remove all questions concerning the fiscal soundness and moral integrity of the State, I recommend that all future revenues from the National Domain shall be pledged as a sinking fund to the extinguishment of the principal of the public debts, annually paying, or providing for the payment of a part of the principal, and absorbing first the older debts.

If seventeen millions of dollars are yet required to complete our public works, the system I have suggested, would, in 1845, discharge the whole of our present and future indebtedness, and after that time leave us unincumbered annual revenues. If we adopt this, or some more judicious fiscal system—if we truly value our resources, and justly appreciate our enterprises, we may prosecute them diligently and firmly, and with even higher confidence in their perfect success and unbounded usefulness than has ever before been entertained.

If, moreover, we declare that at no time, nor under any circumstances, can the states justify a violation of the public faith by any of our sister States, but at the same time yield to those States in performing their obligations, our sympathy, support, and such aid as is within our constitutional province; if we stand by those younger, less wealthy and less powerful, but equally patriotic members of the confederacy, in this crisis—as we know full well they would stand by us if menaced from abroad—we shall see them rapidly recovering from their embarrassments, and worthily regained the confidence of mankind."

Maryland Finances.

The report of the Treasurer of the State of Maryland shews the financial condition of that commonwealth. The receipts into the Treasury from all sources, in the year ending Dec. 1, 1841, were $985,970 36—the disbursements $894,492,03—leaving a balance of $91,478,33, which is subject to unexpended appropriations for $194,956,26, showing a deficiency of revenue of $104,374,92; to which is to be added the cost of the present session of the Legislature, estimated at $45,000. The charge from all sources, on the Treasury next year, is estimated at $1,215,483,07, which is to be supplied by the tax, the ordinary revenue, and the interest and dividends received from internal improvement companies. The result is, that the tax will be chargeable with the payment of $600,000 a year.

The present assessment is calculated to raise only $400,000, so that there will be a deficit of $200,000. The whole State is assessed at 200 millions, of which the city of Baltimore furnishes 88 millions.

An attempt was made lately in the Maryland Legislature to repeal the tax law, but the motion was promptly refused, fifty-six members voting against and twenty-one members for it. Thus has repudiation been frowned down in Maryland. Whatever else may happen, neither of the OLD THIRTEEN will ever refuse to pay debts, owing to innocent fund holders.

John Vaughan.

This venerable man has at length gone to his rest. Our citizens will long remember his aged figure, his active benevolence, his memories of the olden time. He was a native of England, but has resided in this country for the last sixty-five years. At the time of his death he was eighty-six years old. He had retired from business but a few weeks before his decease. He was an intimate acquaintance of Franklin, and of most of the great and good men of the revolution. He thus formed a link betwixt the present and the past, and many were the personal anecdotes he had to relate of those departed sages. His purity of life, his intelligence, and his benevolence had long endeared him to all who enjoyed his acquaintance. For many years he was Secretary of the American Philosophical Society, and he filled the post up to the hour of his death.

His remains were interred at Laurel Hill, on Sunday last. A large concourse met at his residence and followed the body to the Rev. Mr. Furness's church, where appropriate services were performed. Upwards of thirty carriages afterwards attended the remains to Laurel Hill.

Meeting of U. S. Bank.

The annual meeting of the Stockholders of the United States Bank was held on Monday last at the building of the institution. The usual business before the meeting is the election of Directors for the ensuing year, but other business is often submitted to the assembly of stockholders. On this occasion the meeting, contrary to all expectation, proved a stormy one. The Ledger gives an abstract of the occurrences of the meeting, from which we quote. That paper says:—"The general impression was, that the Bank had become powerless—that its assets were so far wasted as to be of little interest to its creditors how they were managed for the future. Such, however, proves not to be the feeling, at least so far as concerns the disposition of the remainder of the wreck of the assets. The meeting was rather large, and the debate which ensued on the motion of Josiah Randal, Esq., to disapprove of the two last assignments of the Bank, was animated. These disposed of property to assignees in trust for the payment of note holders and depositors—and the last made, which is known as the General Assignment, disposing of all the balance of the property of the Bank, for the equal benefit of all its creditors. The adoption of resolutions annulling these assignments, were warmly argued by Mr. Randal, in favor, and Mr. Rawle, in opposition, and were finally adopted. The action of Monday, requires the confirmation of a subsequent meeting to become valid; which is called for the third Monday in February next. The first assignment made, being a partial one, to secure the post notes given to the City Banks, to secure them for the amount for which they became responsible to the Eastern Banks for the U. S. Bank, is still in force. What the result of all this is to be, is more than we can at present divine, except that the expenses may be materially lessened by limiting the number of officers and assignees engaged in the settling up of the affairs, and thus lighten the enormous drain upon the bankrupt concern in the shape of salaries, &c.; which, one of the speakers remarked, now exceeded, annually, $50,000.

It will have another effect, too, of putting all creditors of the institutions on all equal footing, which will be but justice, if the result should prove that there was any thing for any of them. One other important act of this meeting, we are informed, was the adoption of a minute and very voluminous report, submitted to it by the officers of the Bank, touching all its affairs, debts and credits. The names of its creditors, the amount of their indebtedness, when contracted, and how secured. If this document be what it is represented, it is one of the most important that ever emanated from the Bank, and the meeting acted most wisely in ordering it to be published.

The following are the tickets which were voted, the one headed "Regular" being elected.

Regular Ticket.	*Biddle Ticket.*
James Robertson,	James Robertson,
William Drayton,	John Hemphill,
William Rawle,	Robert Taylor,
R. C. Hall, of Carlisle.	Oliver Fuller,
Joshua Lippincott,	Lawrence Lewis,
John Hemphill,	Calvin Blythe,
Moses Kempton,	Peter Wager,
William B. Fling,	Davis B. Stacey,
Oliver Fuller,	Henry Toland,
Foster G. Crutcher,	John R. Vogdes,
Edward Coles,	Samuel R. Wood,
John Bacon,	John Struthers,
Robert Gilmor, of Baltimore,	W. E. Warner,
John Potter, of Princeton, N. J.	Thomas Tustin,
Leonard S. Suarez, of New York.	Francis Jordan,
Jno. S. Donnell, of Balt.	William Badger,
Benjamin W. Richards,	Samuel D. Ingham, of Bucks County.
John R. Neff,	Ellis Lewis, of Lycoming.
Manuel Eyre,	Jonathan Roberts, of Montgomery.
Moses Willis, of Columbus, N. J.	William Ayres, of Dauphin.

Child Attacked by a Leopard.

A shocking accident occurred on Saturday evening at the Bowery Amphitheatre. It appears that Mr. David Watkins, of No. 643 Fourth street, on that evening took his wife and child—a little girl of about four years of age—to that establishment, and finding the Bowery entrance too thronged to admit them readily, they went to the entrance in Chrystie street. This passage round is through that part of the building used as a menagerie of wild beasts; and among the collection is a young leopard, which is uncaged, and has no confinement or security except a chain some eight or ten feet long—he being supposed to be so perfectly tame and domesticated as to be wholly uninfluenced by the savageness of his nature. As the little party was passing this animal, wholly unconscious of any danger, and consequently, not prepared to avoid it, the leopard made a sudden spring at them—attracted, probably, by something red about the dress of the child—and in the twinkling of an eye, seized in his mouth the head of the little girl, who was in her mother's arms, and who was thus raised to about a level with the box or platform, occupied by the leopard. Mrs. Watkins instantly swooned and fell, leaving her child in the grasp of the animal. The consternation and alarm created by the appalling circumstance, soon brought one of the keepers to the spot, who, by a couple of heavy blows with a club, upon the animal's head, made him let go his hold of the child, who was found to be terribly torn and mutilated about her head, one of her eyes out, and otherwise most shockingly wounded. Surgical aid was obtained for the little sufferer as speedily as possible, and there is some hope that by judicious treatment her injuries may be so far healed as to permit her life to be saved but that desirable result is very dubious. At best, she has lost one of her eyes, and will be otherwise greatly disfigured for many years, if not for life.

The carelessness of the keepers of the Menagerie in leaving so ferocious an animal as a leopard but slightly secured, is highly reprehensible. We understand that Mr. Watkins contemplates bringing an action for damages. The verdict in his favor should be prompt and exemplary.

Gen. Scott's Report.

The report of General Scott, on the State of the U. S. Army, contains many interesting details. The Secretary of War, however, in his report has embodied much of the information contained in the General's report. Gen. Scott refers to the Florida war, and says that during the last year the field operations of the troops have been principally confined to the operations of the war against the Florida Indians. Col. Worth's efforts are warmly commended. The present extent of the army is "fourteen regiments—two of cavalry, four of artillery, and eight of infantry. It is recommended that two additional regiments, one of artillery and one of infantry, be formed, under the confident belief that sixteen regiments is the *minimum* regular force now absolutely required by the country.

"The present inequality of pay between the officers of the same grades in the different branches of the service is referred to as involving injustice and causing uncomfortable feeling. A mode of remedy is suggested which, it is thought, will remove the difficulty. The Report calls the attention of the Department to two subjects of great interest—one referring to a system of *retired pay*—the other to the propriety of some provision by law in favor of widows and orphans of regular officers who have died or may die in consequence of wounds received or diseases contracted in service. A provision has already been made in behalf of the widows and orphans of navy, volunteer and militia officers, dying under the circumstances just named."

The Report remarks,—"Indeed the whole subject of army pensions to widows and orphans, and to disabled officers, requires equitable revision." In this opinion we fully coincide, and hope the early attention of Congress will be devoted to a consideration of the subject.

Rhode Island Constitution.

The free suffrage Constitution, lately framed by a voluntary Convention in Rhode Island, has been submitted for adoption to the free male white citizens of that commonwealth over twenty-one years of age. The Convention declared that if a majority of such citizens should vote for the suffrage constitution it would be adopted. Such a majority, it appears, has been given. The whole number of males in the State, over twenty-one years of age, is 26,042. The number of aliens is estimated at 2500, leaving 23,542 free male citizens over twenty-one. A majority would be 11,772, and between 13,000 and 14,000 votes have been given in favor of the suffrage constitution. Only 3,533 persons entitled to vote under the existing laws of Rhode Island have, however, voted in this majority, the remaining 7,166 being composed of individuals not acknowledged as voters by the old government of the State. Here is a direct revolution. The suffrage party will now, we suppose, proceed to organize a government. Will the old authorities, and their supporters the freeholders, submit to this? How will the matter terminate?

Concerts.

Mr. Dempster, the first of ballad singers, gave a Concert at the Musical Fund Hall on Monday evening. The room was well filled, and Mr. Dempster was never in better voice. He sang all of his favorite pieces, among them "The Irish Emigrant's Lament," written by Mrs. Price Blackwood, a sister of the Hon. Mrs. Norton. The concluding stanzas of this pathetic song are exquisite.

On Tuesday evening, at the Musical Fund Hall, Messrs. Herwig and Knoop gave a brilliant concert. Both of these gentlemen are almost unrivalled in their way—Mr. Herwig as a violinist, and Mr. Knoop as a performer on the violincello. Their concert was one of the best that has been given for some time in Philadelphia, and, in more than one passage, the performers actually seemed to electrify the audience.

Buildings Erected.

During the year 1841, there were erected in the city and incorporated districts of the county one thousand three hundred and forty-three new buildings, of which there was in the city proper four hundred and fifty-two; in Spring Garden three hundred and fifty-two, of which, East of Broad street, there was two hundred and five; comprising 170 three story bricks, 28 two story bricks, 1 one story brick, 2 one story stone, 2 two story frame, and 2 one story frame; all of which were designed for dwellings but ten,—and West of Broad, one hundred and forty-seven, of which 113 were three story brick, 12 two story brick, 3 one story brick, 16 three story stone, 2 one story stone, 1 three story frame, and 1 one story frame, all dwellings except seven. Frame buildings are not erected in this district South of Coates and East of Tenth streets. In the Northern Liberties eighty-four permits were taken out, and one hundred and four buildings erected. Frame buildings not allowed to be put up South of Coates street. In Southwark two hundred and five houses were put up, principally of brick, and three stories high. In this district frame buildings must be erected sixteen feet back from the front line on the street.

In Moyamensing one hundred and forty houses were built, all of brick, and the greater portion of them three stories high. No frames are allowed to be put up North of Federal street. In Kensington ninety permits were granted for new buildings, of which three-fourths were made of brick. There is no doubt that more buildings have been erected than the number stated, as in some of the districts permits were granted which set down as for one building, whereas several houses might have been put up under the single grant.

Naval General Order.

We copy the following order of the Secretary of the Navy:

"Whenever an officer shall be arrested on a foreign station, it shall be the duty of the Commander-in-Chief of the station to order a Court for his trial, as soon as possible after he shall be notified of the arrest; and this he shall not refuse nor delay, except for imperative reasons, connected with the public service.

If such imperative reasons shall exist, so that a Court Martial cannot be detailed, and actually set for the trial of the accused, his arrest may continue for thirty days after the Commander-in-Chief of the station shall be notified thereof, and no longer; and the accused shall then be returned to duty, unless for sufficient reasons, the Commander-in-Chief shall otherwise direct; but he shall be again arrested and shall be tried as soon as the condition of the service will admit of it.

No officer arrested on a foreign station, shall be confined to his room, nor restrained from the proper use of any part of the ship, in which, before his arrest, he had a right to be, except the quarter deck; unless such restraint shall be necessary for the safety of the ship, or the preservation of good order and discipline; and even in that case, he shall be no farther restrained than shall be necessary. A. P. UPSHUR.

NAVY DEPARTMENT, Dec. 15, 1841."

The spirit of this order appears to us highly commendable. It prevents much petty tyranny on the part of a commanding officer.

Navy Seized.

The collector of the port of New York has seized two splendid schooners lying at anchor in the Hudson, opposite to Jersey City. They were built in New York ostensibly for private account, but in reality it is believed, for the Mexican government, to be employed against Texas. The cost we believe was $90,000—of which $30,000 are said to have been paid—the balance to be paid on their arrival at their place of destination. The law of the U. S. making illegal the fitting out of armed vessels at our ports to be employed by other governments against governments with which the United States are at peace, was, as we understand the matter, to have been evaded by a pretended sale by the ostensible owners to the Mexican government. Each is armed with a Paixhan thirty-two pounder at midship, and six eighteen pound carronades; and each is fully officered by Mexicans, and manned chiefly by Americans. Mr. Curtis also found several Mexican ladies on board—probably ladies of the officers.

North Eastern Boundary.

Major Graham, who has been employed during the summer in surveying the North Eastern Boundary has intermitted his arduous task during the winter, and is now, we understand, at Washington city. He has had during the last summer about one hundred men in his employ. The trees upon the line have been removed, on the tops of the hills to a space of about one hundred feet, and lessening in width down to the valleys, and the whole line cleared and bushed. The survey has been continued a few miles above the Grand Falls, very near which the line is found to run. The old line has been found very crooked, and the new running with the straight line, takes in several houses in the country below Grand Falls, and in some instances portions of the cleared field of the farmers there. Some of them, would, at times, get exasperated at the proceedings, but most of them were rather calm. About sixty miles of the line, through an unbroken forest, still remains to be surveyed.

Case of Rev. Mr. Van Zandt.

The Rochester papers are nearly filled with this trial. The first witness was the alleged victim, Miss Sophia Murdock, now 16 years of age, who is described as very fine looking, apparently an artless, confiding creature, she stated the commencement of her acquaintance with Van Zandt—the commencement of his advances towards undue familiarity—till the final accomplishment of her ruin. The testimony in defence augurs his acquittal, as the Rev. Thomas Britton testifies that he was with Rev. Mr. Van Zandt from half past 10 o'clock, A. M. till about 4 o'clock, P. M. of the same day when the crime is alleged to have been committed. The girl says it was committed in defendant's study, about half past 2 P. M. If Britton's testimony cannot be overthrown, Mr Van Zandt's vindication is complete. It is corroborated by that of James De Wolf. Mr. Van Zandt appears to have been, in this matter, an injured man, and we rejoice at the vindication of his innocence.

What Means It?

We find the following notice in the Boston papers. What does it mean? Do Messrs. Emerson & Co. doubt the inspiration of the Scriptures, and would they give or withhold their "*imprimatur*" at this convention? This is the notice.

BIBLE CONVENTION.—The undersigned were appointed at a meeting in Chardon Street Chapel, on the 28th of October last, a Committee to call a Convention, to be styled the Bible Convention, for the public discussion of the credibility and authority of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments. We do, therefore, invite all persons disposed to take part in this discussion, to meet at the Masonic Temple, in Boston, on Tuesday, the 29th day of March, 1842, at 10 o'clock, A. M.

R. WALDO EMERSON,
A. BRONSON ALCOTT,
MARIA WESTON CHAPMAN,
EDMUND QUINCY.

This, in the seat of the Pilgrim Fathers! Verily times do change.

A Downright Slander.

The Germantown Telegraph, after descanting at length upon a series of horrible atrocities, lately perpetrated in that village—such as carrying off the spectacles of the good-wives, eating their cold meat, and "spilling the tallow," and having set forth the *undoubted* bravery of the Germantowners, in having absolutely "*halloo'd at*" the miscreants, closes with the following paragraph:

"The villains no doubt all belong to Philadelphia, and generally bring out with them a wagon to carry their plunder."

Now with all deference, we beg leave to suggest, whether this is not the second coming of the "Ghost of Chew's Wall," as nothing but an *apparition* of some sort could have raised such a hubbub in the "quiet village."

The idea of putting off fellows that the Telegraph admits are "no gentlemen" upon Philadelphia is rather cool.

New Arrangement.

The Washington correspondent of the New York Herald, writes thus from Washington, under date of Monday evening:—"A new practice is about to be adopted in reference to social visiting at the White House. Since the accession of President Tyler, the drawing-room has been open every evening for the reception of all the acquaintances of the family, and other persons having the *entree* to the Executive mansion.—The house has thus been thronged with visitors every night. To entertain them all is a task of great labor, and both the President and the ladies must have found it insufferably irksome and fatiguing. Hereafter, it is intended by the President and his family to see their friends on two evenings of each week—Thursdays and Saturdays."

The Public Lands.

The Commissioner of the General Land Office "reports to the General Government that the sales of public lands during the year 1840 amounted to 2,236,889 71-100 acres—the purchase money to 2,789,637 53-100 dollars; and the receipts into the Treasury, from the same source, to $3,292,683 29-100. During the first three quarters of the year 1841, the sales amounted to 1,164,678 39-100 acres; the purchase money to $1,084,943 48-100; and the receipts into the Treasury, from the same source, during the same period, to 1,104,063 06-100 dollars."

Congressional News.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29, 1841.

Mr. Buchanan presented memorials from merchants, manufacturers, and other citizens of Pennsylvania, asking for material alterations in the Bankrupt Law, or for its repeal. The memorials were laid upon the table.

Mr. Morehead presented a memorial from citizens of Kentucky, praying for a repeal of the Bankrupt Law.

Mr. Clay introduced his three Joint Resolutions proposing an amendment to the constitution, in three important particulars, as named in the report of yesterday.

First, to restrict the Veto Power so that Congress may pass a bill by a majority vote after it has been returned from the President.

Also, requiring the Executive to return a bill within the first three days of a new session of Congress, if the ten days shall not have expired before the adjournment of a prior session.

Secondly, to change the appointment of the Secretary of the Treasury and Treasurer of the United States from the Executive to Congress.

Thirdly, to prevent the appointment of any member of Congress to any civil office during the official time for which he was selected.

The resolutions were read, and on motion of Mr. Clay made the special order of the day for the 12th January.

Mr. Preston moved that the fiscal plan of the President of the United States be taken up for consideration. Mr. P. expressed his earnest hope that the subject would be debated in a good spirit, and that either the scheme of the President, or something like it, or something else would be adopted which would afford relief to the people. He did not despair, however, of some final and favorable action on the part of the Senate, in reference to the scheme submitted in detail by the President and the Secretary of the Treasury.

The scheme, said Mr. P., was undoubtedly an efficient one. Some portions of it, however, he must confess, staggered his judgment, and he knew not that he could reconcile it to that judgment to give the plan in full his support. He was strongly convinced of the propriety of adapting the plans of the Government and the institutions of the Government to the institutions of the People. Mr. Preston concluded his brief remarks by moving that the plan of the Secretary of the Treasury be taken up for consideration.

Mr. Tallmadge moved its reference to a Select Committee, in order that it might receive the examination due to its importance. He moved that the committee consist of nine members. In making it, Mr. T. said he did not feel called upon to make any remarks. He was not in a state of health to do so, and he did not regard it proper to enter upon a discussion of the question of currency upon a simple motion of reference.

Mr. Buchanan said that he felt called upon to make some remarks upon the motion submitted to the Senate, and in reference to the plan which had been submitted by the President and his Cabinet.

Mr. Buchanan said he never uttered a sentiment in his life with more sincerity than that expressed by him at the close of the extra session of Congress, when he said he should be willing to receive almost any scheme which President Tyler should think proper to recommend. He felt willing, after arresting the two Bills to establish a National Bank, to give him almost a "carte blanche" for any scheme he might submit.

But, for such a scheme as this Mr. B. said he could not vote. It proposed the establishment of a great Government Bank, at the head of which was to be placed the Secretary of the Treasury. Mr. Buchanan pointed out his objections to the Bill in detail—confining his objections, however, to the powers granted by the Bill to the officers of the Government.

The next argument was, what should be the position of the Whig party in reference to this Government Bank. Those who had spoken against this power could not vote for the Bill. To the Democracy it presented innumerable objections, and was worse than a National Bank, except in all but that which gave Congress the power to repeal the Bill at pleasure.

Mr. Buchanan also commented upon Mr. Clay's former positions, and referred very briefly to some of his speeches opposed to the Sub Treasury Bill.

Leaving Mr. Clay, and his remarks in opposition to a Government or Treasury Bank, Mr. Buchanan came back to the scheme presented in the plan of the Secretary of the Treasury. It would afford as many opportunities for kite flying, and race horse bills of exchange as were presented in the Fiscal Corporation Bill of the last session. The only difference would be that the Bills of Exchange would have to be drawn and redrawn on shorter time.

The paper issues allowed under the Bill were objectionable in the view of the Senator from Pennsylvania. These issues could not be called Treasury notes. They were used for buying exchange, and were issued as three to one. To all intents and purposes they were Government paper, and all such efforts had failed in all time; the assignats of the French Revolution and the Continental money.

The amount of notes authorized by the Central Board of Exchequer were also objectionable. The Bill was one to borrow $15,000,000. Upon $7,000,000 in the Treasury you could issue $15,000,000, and this was equal to a loan of ten millions or fifteen if you used as you would the funds in the Treasury. It gave a paper money too, without the pretence of a specie basis.

In conclusion, Mr. Buchanan said that the scheme proposed had no warranty in the Constitution of the United States, and could not receive the sanction of that instrument to sustain it. He had resisted a similar plan when shadowed out at the extra session of '37, and when the giant intellect of the expounder of the Constitution was called forth, contending that the Government could issue paper money. He had resisted this power as he should now. The measure which had been submitted called for a showing of hands, and he showed his with his friends, opposed to the scheme submitted, and in favor of the Independent Treasury.

Mr. Calhoun said he did not rise to oppose the motion of reference, or to argue the plan submitted by the Secretary of the Treasury. That plan merited all the compliments which had been bestowed upon it. It was simple, able and explicit, and triumphantly vindicated many grounds taken in time past by the party to which he was attached.

In regard to a Bank of the United States, Mr. C. said it would be found impossible to get the stock of such a Bank taken. In all time to come it could not find credit. The plan recommended in part such a scheme and with it the establishment of an Exchequer, but it admitted, and wisely, the power and right of repeal. It admitted that circulation and discount were incompatible. He had so said in 1837. There were other admissions which he would but now consider, and which he received with more pride than pleasure.

But the scheme was a Bank, not in name, but effect. The exchange parts of it were a Bank in all its functions, and in this view he agreed with all that had been said by the Senator from Pennsylvania. It created also a great Government debt. It infringed upon the ground on which he and the friends with whom he acted stood. They would not abandon this ground in any essential particular.

Mr. Rives, in the absence of Mr. Tallmadge, who was unwell, complained of the discussion upon the ground that it was out of place before the committee had examined and reported upon it.

Mr. R. contended also that the Report and Bill presented no recommendation of a Government Bank. The Committee would recommend no such scheme as this. The Sub-Treasury system was also commented upon by the Senator from Virginia and greatly adverse to it.

Mr. Rives closed his remarks between three and four o'clock, when Mr. Mangum moved an adjournment, intending to speak to-morrow.

HOUSE.—Numerous Bills of a private nature were reported from the Committee of Claims, and a resolution was offered by the chairman, Mr. Giddings, of Ohio, that this committee be allowed a clerk, with the usual compensation; to this an amendment was moved by Mr. Cave Johnson, restricting the term of employment to the present session. Upon this amendment the yeas and nays were called, and resulted in 90 affirmative, 64 negative; the resolution as amended was then passed.

Numerous Bills were then presented from the Committees on Claims and Public Lands, and one from the last named, extending the time of issuing military land warrants in favor of officers and soldiers of the Revolution.

Mr. J. Q. Adams submitted a resolution, which was agreed to, referring so much of the Message of the President at the late session, in reference to Foreign Relations, as was unreported upon by the committee at that time, to the same committee of this session.

The call of the committees being exhausted, Mr. Fillmore stated that his committee had instructed him to ask of the House that the Loan Bill might be taken up at once, in committee of the whole. He urged the immediate wants of the Treasury, that there was a present deficit of $250,000.

Mr. Burke, however, claimed the floor, and the debate of yesterday was continued.

WASHINGTON, DECEMBER 30, 1841.

Mr. Allen presented the proceedings of the Legislature of Ohio, asking the action of Congress as speedily as possible upon the subject of the apportionment, and stating that the effect of a delayed action would be the necessity of convening the Legislature in extraordinary session.

The resolutions of instructions were read and left upon the table.

Mr. Walker presented a memorial from citizens of Mississippi, praying for an amendment of the Constitution upon the subject of a United States Bank, and the currency generally. Referred to the Committee of Finance.

Two resolutions were presented during the morning, and laid over for further consideration.

The first was offered by Mr. Graham, calling for information as to the number of Cadets at West Point, and the apportionment to each State. The second was offered by Mr. Barrow, and asked for information in detail as to the number of Midshipmen appointed since 1837. Mr. Barrow also moved a resolution proposing an inquiry into the expense of erecting a Custom House at New Orleans.

The President of the Senate presented a letter from Messrs. Blair & Rives in regard to the printing of the sixth census. These gentlemen claimed the printing of the census papers which have been given by the State Department to the printers of the Senate. The letter states that a part of the printing has been done at the Globe office, and that the same is in the course of printing at the office of the Madisonian. The memorial was read and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.

The President laid before the Senate a communication from the State Department, stating, in answer to a resolution of the Senate, that no correspondence had passed between the two governments upon the subject of the mutual right of search on the high seas. The report was ordered to be printed.

Mr. Mangum made some reflections upon the author of the Currency Scheme, and upon the state of the times, the circumstances under which they had been brought about, &c.

There was no disposition to continue the debate to-day, and Mr. Benton moved that when the Senate adjourn, it adjourn to meet again on Monday next. The motion prevailed, and Mr. King of Ala., moved an Executive Session, which was ordered.

The Senate adjourned to Monday.

HOUSE.—Various attempts were made to get in petitions, and some little confusion ensued; meanwhile the Speaker called the attention of the House to a circumstance which we understood as follows, viz: that if certain additional matter which had been ordered to be incorporated in the census document, together with the additional copies, were to be printed, an expense of $60,000 would be incurred. A motion was here made to refer the subject anew to a Select Committee.

Several members having taken the floor for the purpose of presenting petitions, Mr. Andrews, of Ky., insisted upon taking up the general orders of the day.

The members then again resumed the unprofitable discussion of the Tariff, mingled with partisan politics.

WASHINGTON, January, 3, 1842.

SENATE.—Mr. Wright presented memorials from New York in regard to the Bankrupt Law. Several were presented, two praying for postponement for two months, one for amendment, one for repeal, and the passage of bill including corporations, and only prospective in its character. Another was signed by one hundred merchants praying for two years' postponement. One of the memorials was read, when

Mr. Wright said he was assured that all those petitions were highly respectable, and composed of the strongest houses in the city of New York, and of those who signed the memorials many of them were those who paid the duties at the Custom House. The business and place of residence in each instance were also given.

A memorial from the Chamber of Commerce of New York, upon the same subject, and praying for amendments, was also presented.

Mr. Benton presented two memorials upon the same subject, and asking for an amendment of final postponement.

Mr. Buchanan presented two like memorials, all of which were referred to the Committee on the Judiciary. Mr. Calhoun presented a like memorial also from New York, asking great amendment or repeal.

A memorial was presented by Mr. Buchanan from Warren, in regard to the Seneca Indian Treaty.

Mr. Preston presented a resolution calling upon the Judiciary Committee to inquire whether any further legislation is necessary in the case of the death or the resignation of both the President and Vice President of the United States, and to report by bill or otherwise. The resolution was adopted.

Mr. Barrow's resolution offered on Thursday last in relation to giving to each State its quota of Representatives, was passed.

Also the resolution in relation to the Cadets at West Point, offered by Mr. Preston.

A bill was reported to establish a Board of Claims.

A bill was introduced to refund the balance due to Massachusetts for disbursements in the war with Great Britain.

The following bills were passed:—

For the benefit of the Selma and Tennessee Railroad Company.

Authorizing the State of Louisiana to sell lands.

Also to allow drawbacks on foreign goods exported in the original packages to Chihuahua and Santa Fe in Mexico. Chihuahua is the centre of the Mining District of Mexico. We export goods there and receive gold and silver from them in return. Those who had the inland trade paid no duty, and the bill proposed the same benefit to others.

Mr. Huntington advocated the passage of the bill as the organ of the committee who had introduced it. Mr. Benton moved an amendment favoring Missouri in the route, which was not opposed.

Mr. Woodbury asked the Chairman of the Committee if his attention had been paid to the necessity of including the Northern as well as the North Western Frontier?

Mr. Wright said that the subject necessarily was an independent one. A new Bill would be introduced favorable to the Northern trade as an independent proposition.

Mr. Benton gave notice that at the first gap in the business of the Senate, he would ask for action upon his Bill, postponing the operation of the Bankrupt Bill to the first of July next.

Mr. Huntington being entitled to the floor upon the question of referring the Report and Bill from the Secretary of the Treasury, argued at length in opposition to the plan submitted in the Bill. He expressed himself adverse to the scheme in all its details, and entered more minutely into the question than any of the Senators who had debated the Bill.

The speech was intended as an exposition of reasons for not voting for the plan. Mr. Huntington differed from Mr. Rives and Mr. Tallmadge, as to the propriety of discussing the question now, and regarding it as in order, he entered upon a general and specific discussion of the Bill. Those who have given countenance to the measure he conceived had done so under a misapprehension of its importance, or with ignorance of its effects.

In his estimation, the Bill was an enormous Government Bank, having unlimited power to start upon, and dangerous in all its particulars; and secondly the powers if enforced, would fail to accomplish what was desired. It embraced principles which he argued the President had contended against, and which were true in themselves. In conclusion he argued that no American Senator, entertaining such sentiments as he possessed upon this Bill, could give it his support.

Mr. Bates of Mass. rose to continue the discussion, but being late, an adjournment was called for and soon carried. Mr. Bates, therefore, will speak to-morrow.

A Report from the Treasury Department was then presented and ordered to be printed; when an adjournment was moved.

HOUSE.—Two or three petitions were wedged in, and a new member, Mr. Russell, in the place of Judge Black, deceased, appeared and was qualified.

Mr. Andrews, of Ky. insisting upon the orders of the day.

Mr. W. C. Johnson took the floor.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 4, 1842.

SENATE.—Mr. Wright presented a memorial from citizens of Buffalo, N. Y. praying some action on the part of the General Government which may lead to the release of American prisoners sent to Australia. The petition was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.

Mr. Linn introduced a resolution, which was read and laid over, requesting the President of the United States to make known the intention of this Government, agreeably with the provisions of an existing treaty in relation to the Oregon Territory, not to allow the enforcement of that treaty, by which, as the resolution alleges, great advantages are afforded to Great Britain.

Mr. Young, of Ill. introduced a Bill which had its first and second reading, with a view of reference, proposing an amendment of the Land Bill of 1841, so that the Legislature may control, whether in session or not, the land appropriated to the respective States.

Bills passed in relation to the Drawback on goods exported to Santa Fe and Chihuahua in New Mexico.

Several Pension Bills were considered during the morning, and of which were passed, but all of which were laid over save one—Mr. Calhoun opposing them upon the ground that the evidence was insufficient, and that no Bill should pass which was not favorably considered by the Department. Mr. Prentiss, of Vt. took issue with Mr. Calhoun, and replied to him in the case of a man who had served the proper time, but whose case the Senator from South Carolina was disposed to neglect because the evidence did not satisfy him.

The unfinished business in relation to the Board of Exchequer was called up at half past one, in the form of the motion of reference, and the debate thereon continued for an hour and a half.

Mr. Bates, of Mass. and Mr. Barrow, of Lou. spoke upon the question, and yielded the floor to Mr. Morehead, who will speak to-morrow.

Mr. Barrow took the extreme ground in opposition to the President of the U. S. He said he was not willing to acknowledge the President as the head of the Whig party. He had no confidence in him. He had been once disappointed by his hopes—had proved himself inconsistent—had withdrawn his confidence from the party that gave him his support—and had shown himself eminently inconsistent in manifesting a disposition to charter a great Government Bank, much worse than any contemplated in the Bill of the extra session, and every way obnoxious.

Mr. Merrick moved an Executive Session, which was ordered, and the Senate soon after adjourned.

HOUSE.—Mr. Lewis Williams submitted a resolution that the report from the Land Office be printed, and the same referred to the Committee on Public Lands.

Mr. Hunt offered a joint resolution restricting the term of office of the President of the United States to four years, and making the incumbent ineligible a second time, which was objected to.

Mr. Adams inquired what was the business which now had precedence. Some conversation ensued between Mr. A. and the Speaker, the former insisting that when some days since he had the floor, and presented a petition from Hamilton county, Ohio, against the continuance of the 21st rule, and moved the reference of the same to a Select Committee, which giving rise to debate, was laid over—the Speaker informed him that if he then gave way and permitted the reference of the President's Message to be taken up, this subject would then be next in order.

He appealed to the Speaker's memory, and called for the performance of the Speaker's promise. After mutual explanations, the Speaker decided, upon referring to the Journal, that this resolution to refer the aforesaid petition with instructions to a Select Committee was in order.

Mr. Merriwether moved an amendment to the instructions, to abolish, the previous question, re-establish the "one hour rule," &c. &c.

Mr. Adams raised the question whether this amendment, being thus general, could be made to his distinct proposition.

The Speaker decided the amendment to be in order.

Mr. Wise appealed from this decision, and debated briefly the incongruity of the amendment with the first resolution, but before he took his seat withdrew the appeal and moved to lay the whole subject upon the table.

Mr. Adams rose, and with much excitement, declared that the House had already once decided against the laying of these petitions upon the table, and also took issue with the Speaker upon the fact, whether the instructions which were appended to his resolution were, at the time, declared to be out of order. Mr. A. referred to the public journals of that day to prove that such was the case. The Speaker relied upon the journal of the House.

Mr. A. was strongly called to order, and directed by the Speaker to take his seat.

Upon motion to lay the whole subject upon the table, the *viva voce* vote was ordered, and was ayes 115, nays 84.

Messages was announced from the President of the United States, and also from the Senate.

Mr. Giddings enquired if the other petitions, presented at the same time, were not now before the House. The Speaker replied that he held in his hand twenty petitions to the same effect, which were now to be decided on. A motion was made to lay the whole of them upon the table.

Mr. Adams called for the yeas and nays upon the first of these petitions, and they were ordered. The vote stood ayes 103, nays 87.

The Speaker suggested taking the question upon the remainder, but Mr. Adams insisted that the title of each petition be read, and the question upon putting the same on the table be put by the Speaker.

Mr. Stanly, upon the ground that several members from New York had skulked from the vote, again called for the yeas and nays which were ayes 127 nays 83.

The remainder of the questions were then put and carried, to lay the remainder of the petitions upon the table.

New Publications.

LECTURES ON MODERN HISTORY FROM THE IRRUPTION OF THE NORTHERN NATIONS TO THE CLOSE OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.—*By William Smyth*—2 vols.—*Cambridge: John Owen—Philada: Carey & Hart.*—These lectures were delivered by the author in his capacity of Professor of Modern History in the University of Cambridge, England. We have not enjoyed sufficient leisure to peruse them in full; but the chapters on the American Revolution are singularly impartial, and if the whole work is equally meritorious, we certainly know nothing which is so good an introduction to a course of modern history. Jared Sparks in a preface prefixed to these volumes, speaks in the highest terms of the merit of Mr. Smyth's lectures, characterizing them in the following words—"there is nothing superficial or ill digested; nothing taken at second hand; the lecturer's mind is brought to bear with its own original vigor upon all the subjects that come under his notice; his opinions are frankly and fearlessly expressed, and sustained by a force of reasoning, which rarely fails to produce conviction, never to inspire respect and confidence."

The plan of these lectures is simple, yet comprehensive. The professor first enumerates the various historians what have written on the subject, then he proceeds to decide which are the best authorities, and finally he closes his remarks by a rapid and comprehensive narrative of the events of the age of which he has been treating. A better guide than these lectures to the young student of history does not exist. But while these lectures are so valuable to young men, "they furnish," in the words of Sparks, "nutriment for minds in every stage of culture."

These volumes are printed in a style commensurate with their value. They are from the University Press at Cambridge, Massachusetts, and having said this we have paid them the highest possible compliment. The only fault we have to find with them is in the binding, which, though excellent in its way, is not sufficiently durable for a standard work.

THE KNICKERBOCKER—*January*, 1842.—The leading paper this month, is a parallel betwixt Bonaparte and Wellington. The article displays gross ignorance on the part of the writer whoever he may be. His strictures on the Moscow campaign especially, are full of false views and gross mistakes of fact. For instance, he attributes the ruin of Bonaparte's army to the inclemency of the season, when had he read history aright, he would have known that nearly as great a number of The Grand Army perished in the summer march on Moscow as in the winter retreat from that city—he would have known that the scarcity of provisions and the character of the country was the chief cause of this mortality, and that Napoleon did all he could to provide provisions for his troops, shewing no want of foresight whatever in this respect. The writer's remarks on the battle of Waterloo, are equally at variance with truth. So far from the manoeuvres of Wellington prior to that battle being skilful, they were—to use Napoleon's words at St. Helena—exactly as an enemy would have wished. Wellington was saved at Waterloo only by the iron courage of his soldiers. Had they been less valiant, or had Napoleon succeeded in breaking their line, the ruin of the whole British army would have been inevitable, as they were posted in a position from which retreat was impossible. The whole article is full of glaring errors, errors indeed so astonishing, that they look like wanton misrepresentations.

There is some excellent poetry in the number, and one or two prose articles of merit.—*Drew & Scammell, Agents.*

BALLADS AND OTHER POEMS—*By H. W. Longfellow*—1 vol.—*J. Owen, Cambridge—Carey & Hart, Philadelphia.*—Longfellow has established his reputation as the most imaginative poet in America, and if, as some assert, imagination is the sole test of the poet, then is Longfellow the first poet of the country.

A large portion of the present volume is occupied by a translation of a Swedish poem, entitled "The Children of the Lord's Supper." The remaining part of the volume is taken up with the fugitive pieces of the author that have, since the publication of the "Voices of the Night," appeared in various periodicals of the country. Many of these ballads and other poems possess high merit, but we cannot praise them indiscriminately. Perhaps the most exquisite of the poems is "Endymion"—"The Goblet of Life," and the lines to the river Charles, however, are little less beautiful. The collection is neither so large nor so fine as the one published under the title of "The Voices of the Night."

The volume is elegantly printed, and bound with taste. We commend it to every lover of American poetry.

LADY'S MUSICAL LIBRARY—*for* 1841—*vol.* 1. *No.* 1.—This is a new monthly, undertaken by our friends McMichael & Godey, which promises to become one of the most popular magazines of the day. The plan of the work is to furnish the latest music to subscribers, at a price which will distance all competition. We have in the present number no less than eleven songs, gallopades, quadrilles, marches, &c. The size of the work is a large quarto, and the appearance of the music is in no ways inferior to that issued by the music stores. The work is sold at three dollars a year, thus furnishing music to the subscribers which could not otherwise be procured under thirty dollars. For a further account of the work—its plan, merits, cheapness, &c.—we refer our readers to an advertisement in another column. The issue of this magazine, we predict, will bring about a revolution in the musical world.

POEMS—*By J. G. C. Brainard*—1 vol.—*E. Hopkins, Hartford—Carey & Hart, Philadelphia.*—This elegant little volume deserves all the commendation which is bestowed on it in the article from Arcturus on our first page. As an American poet Brainard takes high rank, and his early death alone prevented him, in our opinion, from winning a still prouder reputation. There is evidence of greater power in him than he has anywhere developed. Many of his pieces are careless to a fault, but everywhere you meet verses which only a true poet could have written. Yet Brainard has left behind him many a fine poem which would alone be sufficient to immortalize him. This is the best edition of his poems which has ever appeared.

THE AMERICAN BIBLICAL REPOSITORY—*January*, 1842.—This quarterly belongs to the adherents of the calvanistic creed, and is conducted with signal ability. The contents of the number for January, are varied and interesting. The leading article is a paper on "The Aborigines of North America," which we have read with great pleasure. An excellent article on the Nestorians follows. The most valuable paper, however, is one on Increase and Cotton Mathers, discussing at large the connexion of the latter divine with the Salem Witchcraft. The Repository is published by W. R. Peters, New York, at four dollars per annum to mail subscribers.

ARCTURUS—*for January*, 1842.—This periodical has received a new infusion of spirit with the new year, and comes to us embellished with an engraving by Phiz. The sketch illustrates a scene in Puffer Hopkins.

The papers in this month's Arcturus are racy, dashing and nervous. We have copied an article on Brainard's Poems, and a tale by Hawthorne, from its pages. There are two fine Sonnets by Lowell, in the number. Mr. Duyckinck has furnished a well written paper against death by hanging. In "The Lotterer," we find a choice unedited Poem by Keats. *Drew & Scammell, Agents.*

ORGANIC CHEMISTRY, IN ITS APPLICATIONS TO AGRICULTURE AND PHYSIOLOGY.—*By Justus Liebig, M. D. &c. &c. Professor of Chemistry in the University of Giessen*—2 *vols.*—*J. Owen, Cambridge.—Carey & Hart, Philadelphia.*—This is the second edition of Professor Liebig's Chemistry. It requires no praise at our hands, for its merits are widely diffused and generally known. The present edition is from the University press at Cambridge, and is unexceptionable in paper and typography. Its clear and elegant pages remind us of the best London works.

THE PATRIARCH OR FAMILY LIBRARY MAGAZINE—*January*, 1842.—The number of the Patriarch before us is handsomely embellished, and filled with forty-eight pages of interesting matter. The articles are generally original. The Patriarch may be had of W. E. Rogers, 67 South Second street, Philadelphia.

MERRY'S MUSEUM—*January*, 1842.—This little Magazine is issued, stored with excellent matter, and adorned by several fine wood cuts. Let it be remembered that Merry's Museum is edited by Peter Parley. Terms one dollar a year. *Drew & Scammell agents.*

Debt of Ohio.

The Annual Report of the Auditor of Ohio exhibits the following:—

Permanent loans,	$11,411,334 11 0
Temporary loans, (for which stock has been hypothecated,)	1,336,000 00 0
Temporary loans, without	250,355 70 0
Surplus revenue loaned by counties	53,000 96 0
Surplus revenue, loaned by Auditor of State	27,980 32 0
Amount due turnpike companies,	546,679 35 0
Domestic debt,	1,346,588 88 2
Scrip issued to rail-road and canal companies,	581,515 00 0
Total,	$15,573,354 22 2

This does not embrace the amount due from the canal fund to the sinking fund for loans and interest from the latter to the former fund.

Gov. Porter's Message.

Both Houses of the Pennsylvania Legislature met at Harrisburg on Tuesday, but they were not fully organized until Thursday. John Strohm, Esq. of Lancaster, was elected Speaker of the Senate, and James R. Snowden, Esq. of Venango, Speaker of the House. We give below the Message of Gov. Porter to the Pennsylvania Legislature. The Message was delivered at Harrisburg, on Thursday at noon, and reached Philadelphia the same evening.

The tone of the Message in relation to the State Debt and the Internal Improvements is highly praiseworthy. We commend those portions of the document especially to our Pennsylvania readers.

To the Senate and House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Fellow Citizens:—In performance of the duty enjoined on me by the Constitution, I proceed to give you such information of the state of the Commonwealth, and to recommend to your consideration such measures, as I think expedient, at the present time. The discharge of this duty is, in many respects, beset with difficulty, but this does not absolve me from the obligation created by my official station. In a spirit of perfect frankness, I shall submit to you, the best dictates of my judgment, and shall be happy if, in your wisdom and experience, you can so modify and improve them as to promote in a greater degree, the welfare of our common constituents, the people of this Commonwealth.

The subject of deepest interest, and greatest perplexity, that calls for our attention is, the financial condition of the State. Although I have, on several former occasions, entered into a full and minute exposition of this matter, I cannot refrain from again presenting it to your consideration, in a manner so distinct and plain, as to preclude, I trust, the possibility of misconception on the part of those who feel an honest desire to understand it. I am persuaded that however embarrassed may be the pecuniary affairs of the Commonwealth, nothing is needed to induce the people to provide means to extricate them, but a clear and candid exposition of the nature and extent of the liabilities, to which they are subject. The time for concealment, evasion and deception on this point, is at an end. The contract has been made. The faith of the State is pledged, and every consideration of duty and of honor require of us, to know our true condition, and to provide adequate means to meet our obligations, and to redeem our plighted faith.

There is due by this State, to the United States, on account of deposit of surplus revenue, the sum of $2,867,514 78. The funded debt of the State, amounts to $36,331,065 68. This debt is reimbursable as follows:—

$270,081 87	in the year	1841
62,500 00	" "	1844
3,516,568 81	" "	1846
50,000 00	" "	1847
1,000,000 00	" "	1850
2,000,000 00	" "	1853
2,000,000 00	" "	1854
2,783,161 00	" "	1856
7,070,661 00	" "	1858
1,250,000 00	" "	1859
2,648,680 00	" "	1860
120,000 00	" "	1861
3,225,000 00	" "	1862
200,000 00	" "	1863
2,515,000 00	" "	1864
1,797,000 00	" "	1865
2,524,000 00	" "	1868
1,957,362 00	" "	1870
340,981 00	at expiration of certain bank charters.	
Total	$36,331,065 68	

This debt has been contracted for the following purposes:—

For Canals and Railways,	$30,055,013 68
To pay interest on public debt,	3,304,303 00
For the use of the Treasury,	1,571,689 00
For Turnpikes, State Roads, Bridges, &c.	950,000 00
For the Union Canal,	200,000 00
For the Eastern Penitentiary,	120,000 00
For the Franklin Railroad,	100,000 00
For the Pennsylvania and Ohio Canal,	50,000 00
Total	$36,331,005 68

The value of our public improvements, estimated at cost, is	$20,292,165 33
The State owns bank stock which cost at par	2,108,700 00
The State owns Turnpike and Bridge stock,	2,843,048 89
The State owns Canal and Navigation stock,	831,778 66
The State own Railroad stock,	350,546 90
Money due on unpatented lands, estimated at	1,000,000 00
Total,	$36,426,239 78

The immediate difficulty of our situation, arises mainly from the payment of the interest annually accruing on this debt. This interest is about $1,800,000; and this sum, it is incumbent on the State to provide as it becomes due. The inconsiderable portion of the funded debt, now redeemable, can be, doubtless postponed until more auspicious times, but the interest admits of no such postponement. This is in a great measure payable to those who cannot afford to procrastinate its reception, and whose means of subsistence depend, on the faithful adherence of the State, to its solemn engagements with its loan holders. The income especially appropriated to the payment of this interest, is derived from the following sources, to wit:—tolls on canals and railways, auction duties, tax on collateral inheritances, dividends on turnpike, bridge and navigation stocks, escheats and the tax levied on real and personal property, &c.

The amount received from each of these several sources, during the last fiscal year, ending 30th November last, is as follows:—

From tolls on Canals and Railways	$762,360 44
From Auction duties,	77,022 15
From Collateral inheritances,	21,591 43
From Dividends on turnpike, bridge and navigation stocks,	30,355 72
From Escheats,	336 64
From Tax on real and personal property, &c.	33,292 77
Total,	$924,959 15

The sum in the treasury applicable to this object, on the first day of this month, independent of what will be received during the month, was $1,020,936 38, being $124,042 62 more than is necessary to pay the interest due on the first of February, next.

In relation to the assessment and collection of the state taxes, under the act of the 11th June, 1840, the greatest delinquency is found with the county commissioners. No return or statement has been received from several of the counties although required by the 6th section of the said act, to be transmitted to the Auditor General on or before the first Monday of September, in each year. It is, therefore out of my power to inform you of the amount assessed under said act. From the information, however, received, I feel warranted in saying that it will amount to about half a million, or within a fraction of it. That amount will be considerably increased by the valuation and assessment provided by the "act to establish a uniform mode for the valuation of property and assessment of taxes," passed 15th May, last; the returns of which are required to be made to the Auditor General within the present month, and will be laid before you as soon as received.

The duty of the county commissioners to make returns of the assessments, &c., to the Auditor General, imposed by law, seems not to be designated and enforced with sufficient precision and certainty. To secure its faithful performance, I recommend a revision of the law.

During the existing state of things, the continuance of taxes assessed, for the payment of this interest, or at least of taxes of some kind for this purpose, appears to be indispensable. If the distribution of the objects of taxation, or the mode of levying and collecting the tax be unfair, or onerous, undoubtedly the evil should be promptly corrected.

I have heretofore declared my determination to do all that belongs to this department to meet faithfully the engagements of the State, and to maintain unsullied, the credit and fidelity of our Commonwealth. My sentiments in relation to these matters have undergone no change, and I am pleased to find that on this subject, there is no diversity of opinion among the great mass of the citizens of the State. All agree that, whenever the constituted authorities of the Commonwealth, have entered into engagements conformably to the constitution and laws, whether these engagements have been characterized by due prudence and a proper regard to the interest of the public, or not, the honor of the State, the permanence of our republican institutions, and a sacred regard to the sanctity of public engagements, require that the resources of the Commonwealth, and the energies of her citizens, be put in requisition, to meet her public engagements promptly, punctually, and unhesitatingly. It is, therefore, respectfully and earnestly urged upon the Legislature, to take the necessary steps, at the earliest possible day, to ensure this desirable result.

As the most efficient means that have occurred to my mind, I would suggest the following course. Let the Legislature ascertain from the financial departments, both the ordinary revenue, and the amount necessary to be raised, annually, for the payment of the interest on the State debt, and the ordinary expenses of government. Let provision also be made to cover all possible contingencies and losses on collection. Add to this a sum, though ever so small, for a sinking fund, to be applied annually to the extinguishment of the principal of the public debt, and apportion it among the several counties of the Commonwealth, designating the amount to be paid by each, by an uniform apportionment according to the triennial, or last assessments, with such corrections and equalization as shall be found necessary, and on the same objects now taxable, or any others that the Legislature may think preferable. Let adequate and certain penalties be imposed on each county commissioner for omitting to have the duplicates issued in time, and on each assessor for the non-performance of his duties, and allow the county such a premium, as shall be thought right, if its full quota be paid into the Treasury, on or before the day required by law. It is believed that a committee of the Legislature would be as competent a board as could be raised, to apportion the quotas of the several counties, as above mentioned, aided as they will be, by the late assessments and census. The establishment of this system by law, would place the fund to meet the interest on the public debt, on a permanent foundation, and silence forever all doubts which interested speculators might seek to raise on this subject.

But it is not only to the loan holders of the Commonwealth, that she ought to be just in meeting her engagements. A regard to economy, as well as justice, to the men who labor upon the repairs of our canals and railroads, requires that they should be punctually paid. The laborer is worthy of his hire, and as is meritorious a creditor as the Commonwealth has, and it is absolutely indisputable that he should be dependant on the borrowing of money for his pay, and be unable, at times, for months together, to procure as much for his labor as will buy him a loaf of bread. It is respectfully suggested, that when abundant means from taxation are provided to meet the interest of the State debt, that the tolls on our public works shall be first applied to their repairs, so that we may know, at a glance, to what the nett revenue, if any, arising from them respectively amounts.

It is not to be disguised that we are deeply in debt; and that the times call for an unqualified fearlessness in our public functionaries, to meet the emergency, and to provide the means for our extrication. The people are already burdened with taxation, and those burdens cannot be diminished, if we expect to pay our debts. The conduct and motives of those who make provisions to pay them, may be misrepresented, and for a time misunderstood. Prejudice, from the sordid feelings of interest, may be invoked, and demagogues and unprincipled politicians will, doubtless, attempt to use it, to answer their own purposes. But the responsibility is one which every honest public functionary must meet fairly and frankly, and in so doing he will be eventually sustained by the people at large, who never deliberately err, and who always will reward, with their confidence, an honest and fearless devotion to their true interests, even though it may, at first, have met with temporary disapprobation.

The means to pay off the loan under the act of 4th May, 1841,—to pay the foregoing creditors of the State, and the interest, on the public debt, must be provided before the Legislature adjourns. Sound policy, nay common honesty demands this much at your hands, and I am persuaded no member of the Legislature will shrink from a duty enjoined by such considerations as these.

It will be found on reference to the amount of taxes paid by the people, that comparatively a small portion is levied to discharge the interest on the public debt. Although in the aggregate the taxes are onerous, by far the greater amount is absorbed in the ordinary purposes of township, city and county affairs. I take great pleasure in stating the fact, that the increase of the taxes for the maintenance of the faith and honor of the State, has been regarded in a spirit of patriotic duty by the public at large, and has been borne without repining, unless, indeed, we except a very few persons, residing in portions of the State which have reaped almost the entire benefit of the expenditure of the vast sums of money, for the payment of interest on which these taxes are imposed. I felt satisfied when I recommended, early in my official career, the resort to taxation, instead of additional loans, to pay the interest annually accruing, that the enlightened yeomanry of Pennsylvania would, under the circumstances, sanction the recommendation. I am now convinced I did not mistake their true character; nor can the extraordinary conduct of some persons, professing better principles, who first urged the adoption of the measure, and afterwards denounced those who acquiesced in it, shake for a moment my steadfast convictions on this subject. I always believed the people would do their duty, let it cost what it might; the first instance is yet to be found in our history when they have flinched from it, if rightly understood.

The unprecedented increase of our population and resources, cannot fail, in a few years to render our improvements so productive as to supercede the necessity for taxation. The ultimate value of our stupendous system of public works can hardly now be estimated. They have already added an incalculable amount of value to the property of the citizens of the Commonwealth, and given an earnest of their capacity for future usefulness. The travel and transportation upon them must increase in full proportion with the multiplication of our population, and the developement of our exhaustless resources. When it is recollected that the population of this State in the year 1800, was only 602,545; that in 1820, it was 1,049,313; and in 1840, it was 1,724,033; showing an increase within the last twenty years, exceeding the whole population in the year 1800; and when it is remembered that this immense increased and increasing population has imparted, and is imparting its intellect, energy and industry to the improvements of the agricultural, mining, manufacturing and commercial interests of the Commonwealth; and that during the past year, when trade and business were greatly depressed; when the Delaware division was not in use until about the 1st of August; and when the important anthracite coal trade from the Wyoming, Shamokin and Bear valleys, and other intermediate points to tide; and the bituminous coal trade from the Allegheny mountain, on the West Branch, and Juniata region, to tide; have been barely commenced, the receipts of toll amounted to the sum of $762,260 44, it will be difficult to form a just estimate of the extent of their future usefulness and extended receipts.

These internal improvements, for the construction of which the principal amount of the State debt has been incurred, consists of 768½ miles of canal and railways completed, and 165½ of canal in progress of construction and nearly completed.

The finished works are the following:	miles
The Delaware canal, from Easton to tide at Bristol	59¾
The main line of canal and railway from Philadelphia to Pittsburg	395¼
Canal from Beaver on the Ohio river to Greenville, in the direction of Erie	72¼
Canal from Franklin on the Allegheny river to Conneaut lake	49¾
Canal, Susquehanna and North Branch from Duncan's Island to Lackawanna	111¼
Canal, West Branch from Northumberland to Farrandsville	73
Several side cuts and navigable feeders	7
Total canals and railways completed	768½
Canals in progress and nearly completed	miles
North Branch extension, from Lackawanna to New York line	90
Erie extension, from Greenville to Erie harbor	63¾
Wiconisco canal, from Duncan's Island to Wiconisco creek	12½
Total canals in progress	165½

The report of the canal commissioners, with the accompanying documents, which will shortly be laid before you, will show in detail, the state and condition of our public improvements. Having in former communications to the legislature, stated my views in relation to our system of internal improvements, I beg leave, respectfully, to refer you to them, as being unchanged, without wishing unnecessarily to extend this communication, by embodying them in it.

When I first entered upon the duties of the executive department, the question of completing the North branch and Erie extensions was submitted to the action of the legislature. The representatives of the people decided in favor of completing both, and have by three subsequent acts, appropriated considerable sums of money for that purpose. The North Branch canal has already cost $2,348,276 38, of which the sum of $389,676 42 remains yet due to contractors. The Erie extension has already cost about $2,919,607, of which the sum of $574,466 23, is yet due to contractors. The grave question is now presented to your serious consideration, whether, under all the circumstances, those two lines are to be forthwith finished, or abandoned for all time to come, and the entire amount of labor and money expended upon them thrown away. Contractors who have gone on to the work, and perhaps executed the least profitable part of it, will have fair claims on the justice of the legislature for remuneration for the losses they have sustained by an abandonment of the work by the commonwealth. Judging from the success which usually crowns perseverence, in similar applications, before the legislature, there can be little doubt that this class of claimants will not go away unanswered and unsatisfied. The farmer whose lands have been cut up and destroyed, will also be a just claimant for compensation for the injury he has sustained, for which the advantages from the proposed canal will not be an available set off; and it may be well to enquire whether the amount of those claims would not go far toward the completion of those branches of our improvements. The only valid objection to a prosecution of these works to completion, is the difficulty to be apprehended in raising the necessary funds for the purpose. The estimated cost to complete the Erie extension is $536,142 46, and the North Branch $1,298,416, independent of the arrearages due contractors, as before stated, which must be paid at all events. More confidence can be placed in the accuracy of these estimates of the cost of completing these works, than could be extended to those made in the earlier stages of our public improvements, from the increased practical experience of those intrusted with the duty of making them. My own opinion remains unchanged, that it is our true policy to go on and complete both these works with as little delay as possible. This, however, is a question exclusively for your decision.

For the debts now due to contractors on these lines, as well as for repairs on the other lines, rendered indispensable, and without which many portions of our canals would have been unavailable and useless throughout the season, I respectfully urge that some prompt and immediate provision be made. Many of the contractors have laid out their money for a long time, and have suffered serious injuries by the delay. If no better expedient can be devised, I would recommend the immediate issuing of a six per cent. stock, to all such creditors, redeemable at such time as shall be thought most expedient.

The amount required to pay debts due for repairs on the several lines of canal and railroad, it will be observed, by the report of the Canal Commissioners, is unusually large. This is to be ascribed to the unprecedented breach which occurred in the Delaware Division, in January last, which cost about $150,000; to the renewal of the North track of the Columbia railroad; to the rebuilding in a permanent manner, the locks, bridges aqueducts on several of the divisions, and particularly on the North Branch, where the original superstructures, composed entirely of wood, had so far decayed as to leave no other alternative, than either to renew them throughout, or abandon the navigation entirely. It is also, in part, to be ascribed to the fact, that only a portion of the funds appropriated by the act of the 4th of May last, for repairs and to pay debts then due, became available; leaving a large balance of the appropriations to these objects, therein authorised, still due to the public creditors.

There is always, even under the most economical administrations of affairs, a greater amount of expense incurred in managing and keeping in repair great public improvements for the Commonwealth, than it would cost if they were in the hands of individuals. It is, therefore, respectfully suggested for the consideration of the Legislature, whether the public interest would not be promoted, and the amount of the State debt considerably lessened, by a sale of the canals and railroads belonging to the Commonwealth, or at least, a portion of them, or such other disposition as would diminish their annual expenses to the Commonwealth, and increase the amount of revenue from them.

Were the Commonwealth free from debt, I should hesitate to recommend the sale of any of her public improvements. But oppressed as she is, the cost which the repairs require, and the necessity of relieving ourselves as far as possible, induce me to urge action on this subject, at least so far as regards the Columbia railroad, and the Delaware Division of the Pennsylvania canal. It will matter but little to those interested in the use of the improvements, whether they are in the hands of the public or of individuals, provided proper safeguards are enacted to protect the public in the free use and enjoyment of them, and to guard against abuses and exactions.

If it be objected that sales cannot be effected in the present state of our pecuniary embarrassments, that will be no reason why a law should not now be enacted authorising the sale of such portions of them as shall be deemed proper, subject to the approbation of the Legislature on the sale being reported. If sold, even on an extended credit, if the principle be secured, and the interest punctually paid, it will so far relieve the Commonwealth. If it were made a condition that State stock should be received in payment, it would probably make the sale more advantageous to the Commonwealth. The disposition of capitalists would thus be made known, and it can, at least, be ascertained whether a sale at an adequate price can be effected. The policy of leasing for a term of years, one or both of these improvements, has been more than once suggested. Of the propriety of so doing, I am not prepared to express a decided opinion, but have thought it worthy of a suggestion for your consideration.

That the public works should be unproductive, is owing in a great measure to a want of proper legislation on the subject, and unless this be remedied, it must impair public confidence in their ultimate utility. The Canal Commissioners have repeatedly urged upon the legislature the propriety of allowing the Commonwealth, alone, to carry passengers on the Columbia railroad. No railroad in the United States could sustain itself if it were to relinquish the carrying of the passengers, yet, on that road this strange condition of things is exhibited. The State has expended in its construction over four millions of dollars, while the capital employed by those carrying the passengers, is perhaps thirty thousand dollars. The State on her immense outlay, is reaping about three per cent. while the individual carriers on their thirty thousand dollars, are clearing nearly two hundred per cent. So it is, also, with regard to the transportation between Philadelphia and Pittsburg. That line of our improvement, between those cities, was constructed at a cost of a fraction over fourteen millions of dollars. The transportation on it, is monopolized by some seven or eight companies, employing a capital of less than four hundred thousand dollars; yet, while the State is receiving little more than will keep it in repair, the transporters are realizing immense profits, and that too, on a comparatively small outlay.

This can only be remedied by vesting the Canal Commissioners with full and ample authority to adopt such measures, as in their judgment, will be best calculated to enlist individual enterprise, and invite competition, and to counteract the effects of the selfish and monopolizing system, that has controlled, and now controls, the transportation on our public works.

It may possibly be supposed that the Canal Commissioners possess adequate power already for this purpose, but this is to mistake the case. From the nature of that department of the government, it is always made the target at which the discontented and interested point their shafts. Not a session of the legislature passes without harrassing the commissioners with investigations,—the whole State is ransacked for accusers,—every act is questioned and misrepresented, and after all, the result is fruitless. The first instance is yet to be found, in which any thing tangible has been produced, or any salutary reform of the system effected. Were the legislature to devote one session to an honest and thorough examination and correction of the abuses and defects of the system, without annoying and pursuing individuals for sinister ends, not openly avowed, much good would be produced; but, under any other mode of treating this subject, the issue must be as idle and frivolous as heretofore. I do not wish to preclude the most searching investigation. I merely desire to direct your attention in a channel that will be beneficial to the public.

One of the greatest evils of these frequent and frivolous investigations, is that they bring legislative investigations themselves into discredit. The persecution of the innocent, always furnishes a shield to the guilty.

It is now, throughout the country, a matter of idle sport to talk of these investigations. The mode by which they are brought about is well understood. A few dissatisfied contractors, and others, impose on the credulity and stimulate the ambition of some member of the Legislature to offer a petition, complaining of public grievances. A committee to investigate is appointed,—subpœnas are issued, and straightway, swarms of hungry confederates throng the seat of government, to prosecute their claims before the Legislature,—to lounge at the public expense, and join in a wholesale pillage of the treasury. At the close of the session the committee reports,—the witnesses return to their homes, and laugh at the trick, as they pocket the spoils. By reference to this subject, it will be found that a large portion of the legislative expenses, is incurred in this way. The extraordinary increase of those expenses, over those of all other departments of the government, has been of late years a matter of just complaint.

It becomes my duty, in the next place, to invite your earnest attention to the present condition of the banks, and currency of this State. It is a most lamentable fact, that, in relation to this subject, the greatest irregularity and disorder prevails. It is true, we have little, if any, of that wretched illegal trash, in circulation, which, during the early part of the last six years, infected all sections of the Commonwealth, in the forms of notes, checks, certificates, &c., &c. of corporations and individuals, for small sums, put forth without lawful authority, and in spite of the prohibitions of law; but we have, what is little better, a large amount of notes in circulation, ostensibly legal, and purporting to be of equal value, because founded on the faith of the State, by whatever bank issued, and yet, notwithstanding this fact, discredited and repudiated by the very institutions for whose benefit and relief they were authorised to be issued.

The act of the last session entitled, "an act to provide revenue to meet the demands on the treasury, and for other purposes," under the provisions of which, these small notes have been thrown into circulation, having become a law by the sanction of two-thirds of the Legislature, according to the forms of the Constitution, notwithstanding the objections of the Executive, I have exerted myself to the utmost, to see its provisions properly carried into effect. This was my duty, as the Executive, and I have faithfully performed it, agreeably to the best dictates of my judgment. I did hope that some of the evils which have resulted from it, might have been obviated, if it was enforced by me, and acted upon in a spirit of enlarged wisdom, by the banks themselves. This hope has been vain. The worst anticipations have been realized, and it is my duty to suggest such a remedy, as appears to me, to be best calculated to correct the grievances, under which the public labors.

By this act a loan of three millions one hundred thousand dollars was authorized, to pay specific appropriations made by the said act, and the several banks of the Commonwealth, subject to the payment of a tax on their dividends, were authorized to subscribe for the same, in certain proportions to the capital stock of each.

The whole amount of banking capital in the Commonwealth is,	$23,559,374
Banking capital not subject to a tax on dividends,	5,150,000
Banking capital subject to the payment of a tax on dividends,	$18,409,374

Of the banking capital subject to the payment of a tax on dividends, banks holding to the amount of $10,836,145, did not accept of the provisions of the act of 4th May to provide revenue, and hence the capital of the banks which did accept of the provisions of the said act, amounted only to the sum of $7,573,229.

The whole amount of the loan taken by the accepting banks and paid into the treasury is $1,756,650 68, leaving the sum of $1,343,349 32, which has not been received.

On the 30th August, 1841, I accepted an offer of the Towanda Bank, to subscribe for an additional sum of one hundred thousand dollars of the said loan, and on the same day, I accepted an offer of the Erie Bank, to subscribe for an additional sum of three hundred and fifty thousand dollars.

Of these offers the State treasurer agreed to accept from the Erie Bank, the sum of twenty-five thousand dollars, and from the Towanda Bank the sum of thirty-seven thousand five hundred dollars. This bank did not accede to the proposition to accept a part of the sum offered, hence no part of the one hundred thousand dollars was received at the treasury. Thus it appears a very large portion of the banking capital, subject to the operation of this bill, has taken no part of the loan at all, and can, of course have no claim to indulgence under this law. Those banks which have complied, stand in a different position—their loans must be repaid before they can be forced to resume. It is an inquiry of much moment, whether the banks that have not complied with the requisitions of the law, ought not to be deprived of the advantages arising from the use of the notes issued by those that did.

After the most patient reflection on this subject, I am persuaded that the only effectual and certain remedy is, to repeal the act so far as relates to the issue of these notes, and to provide adequate means to discharge the loan on which they are based. To pay this loan, a six per cent stock might be authorized to be thrown into market, to sell for whatever it will produce. Should there be a small loss upon it, I am sure it will be deemed a very inconsiderable matter, compared with the inconvenience the people suffer from the present state of things. To remedy this, a sacrifice, to some extent, is inevitable.

Connected with the repeal of this law, should be the enforcement of specie payments by the banks. An early day should be fixed for this event, at least as early as the first of June. The time, however, is not so material, whether it be a few months sooner or later, so that a certain definite and reasonable time be fixed. Your action on this point, cannot be too prompt for the public interest. The community has been long enough held in suspense, the final issue be at once presented, and it is to be hoped the people and the banks will be prepared to meet it when it arrives.

Those banks which are in a sound condition, will conform to the requisitions of the Legislature, without much embarrassment; and those which are not, will thus be brought to the touchstone of their merits. The first will sustain themselves, the latter must take their fate. As soon as the produce of the country has found its way to market in the spring, the people will be as able as at any other period, to endure whatever hardship results from this measure. I do not myself believe, that any inconvenience which can arise from it, will be greater, nor any thing like so protracted, as those which are felt by all classes now.

It seems to me it would be far better, to bring matters to a crisis at once, than to suffer under the slow, but death-like torpor that has already seized upon all. A very few may, possibly fall victims a little sooner, who could not escape in the end, but the community at large will ultimately experience effectual relief. Let rashness, violence and injustice be strenuously avoided, but no vain hopes, or empty theories should prevent a cool, calm contemplation of our duty, and a firm and unshaken discharge of it, without turning to the right hand or to the left. A suspension of specie payments is at variance with every principle of correct banking.

The forbearance hitherto extended to the banks has not been without its uses. It has enabled the banks to test their alledged ability, and to extricate themselves from their difficulties, and has added much to the stock of our experience. It has clearly demonstrated, that if the banks could not regain public confidence, under the indulgence they have received, the system on which they are founded is essentially unsound, and requires thorough amendment or extirpation. We have witnessed, too, under the influence the most extraordinary changes take place, without any sudden or general convulsion. A bank of thirty-five millions capital has exploded and gone down in the midst of us, comprehending within its sphere of business, the most extensive relations, both with individuals and with other banks, without making more than limited portions of the Commonwealth feel the blow with oppressive weight. Looking, therefore, at all these considerations, the indulgence heretofore given to the banks, furnishes the strongest reason in favor of the course I suggest, and fully justifies its adoption.

I have recommended to three several legislatures the propriety of selling the stock which the State owns in the Bank of Pennsylvania, the Philadelphia Bank, and the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank, and used every argument that I could bring to bear upon the subject, to convince them of the propriety of separating the Commonwealth from the banks, and of disposing of the stock she holds in them. I recommended it in a message, communicated on the 7th March, 1839, on which day the market price of the said stocks were, for the Bank of Pennsylvania, $190 for $400 paid; Philadelphia Bank $108½ for $100 paid, and the Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank $62 for 50 paid. The same recommendation was again made on the 8th of January, 1840, at which time the following was the price of said stocks—for Bank of Pennsylvania $410; Philadelphia Bank $99½; Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank $54½. A similar recommendation was made 6th January, 1841, on which day the following sales were made, viz: for Bank of Pennsylvania $412; Philadelphia Bank $100; Farmers' and Mechanics' bank 52½, making the said stocks, held by the Commonwealth, worth $2,157,970. By the last sales made during the present month, the market value of those stocks are, for Bank of Pennsylvania $160; Philadelphia Bank $48; Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank $30; making the present total worth of those stocks $902,424; by which it is seen that by the course pursued by the last legislature, in refusing to authorize a sale, the loss sustained by the State, on those stocks, amounts to the formidable sum of $1,255,546. I renew the same recommendation to you, for the reasons given, from time to time, in my several communications on that subject.

Before I dismiss the subject touching the banks, I desire to call your attention to the policy of rechartering banks, by the legislature, during the present session, at all. When a charter for a bank has been granted to a number of individuals, for a fixed period of time, there is no express or implied obligation to renew it. On the contrary, the very limitation shows that its existence is to be terminated at the time designated. Its stockholders know this, and cannot complain if held to their bargain. The condition of banks never is known till they are wound up and closed. Their mode of doing business, enables them to defy public scrutiny, and to acquire a credit and standing to which they may not be justly entitled. Frauds and irregularities of years perpetration, are concealed from the eye of the public, till a final settlement of the concerns of the bank is made. Little knots of persons confederate and gather round these institutions,—reap the benefit of their existence,—monopolize their advantages, and perpetrate their power. We seldom find among them the energy, intellect and enterprise of the community, but those who derive their consequence from their combinations sanctioned and invigorated by the law. I cannot think such a system as this of perpetuating these corporations, congenial to our free institutions. It establishes monopolies of the most odious kind, because not limited in duration. If the business of the community really requires the aid of a bank, instead of renewing the charter of the one about to expire, establish a new one. Let its subscription books be open to all, and if it be advantageous, let all share in its enjoyment, who may choose to do so, and if not advantageous let all participate in bearing the burthen.

Besides, it is not a fit time to renew bank charters, or to establish new ones. The public mind is not settled on this subject, nor can we fully appreciate the soundness, or unsoundness, of the banking system until a resumption of specie payments takes place. Let the recommendations I have now submitted to you, be adopted, and let us wait a year at least to judge of their results. This experience will essentially aid future legislation, and perhaps rescue us from fatal errors. The history of the legislation of this Commonwealth, in regard to banks, is a succession of plausible theories; let us hereafter rest it on the solid basis of enlightened experience. Then may we hope to escape the rock, on which all our banks are now temporarily shipwrecked. I hope and trust most, if not all of them, are able to resume specie payments; but it is impossible to know this, or to confide in their ability and disposition to do so, until we have the proof, which they alone can furnish. The public has ceased to yield its credit to any corporate pretensions, which are not supported by corresponding acts. I have appended several tables connected with this subject, as affording matters of convenient reference.

The general subject of creating and regulating corporations, is so intimately blended with that of the banking institutions of the Commonwealth, as to claim a place next in our consideration. I have remarked in former messages, that the creation of corporations for all purposes, has been carried to a fearful extent in this State. Year after year they have been springing up around us on all sides, and are rapidly becoming competitors with individuals in all sorts of business. When confined to their legitimate purposes, such as the construction of canals and railroads into our fertile interior, and rich mineral regions, I shall not utter a word of complaint; but to this limit, strictly should they be restrained. The increase of corporations is a growing evil. I have again and again cautioned the Legislature against the granting of corporate privileges; I cannot too strongly impress this caution upon your minds. On referring to the acts of the last Legislature, we find the grant of corporate privileges to have been free and almost indiscriminate. So much so, that of 147 laws enacted, more than one-third were either acts of incorporation, or acts supplementary thereto. I adhere to the opinion, heretofore expressed, that corporations ought never to be created, where the object to be accomplished is within the probable reach of individual exertion. They absolve men from personal liability, and may tend, by undue combinations and concentrated action, to embarrass the operation of government, and interfere with the popular sovereignty. Let the present Legislature set the example of resisting these monopolising encroachments. If the propriety of this course was ever doubtful, the experience of a few years past has dissipated all doubt, and clearly marked out the path of duty.

On this subject, there is another matter which has been repeatedly brought under my notice. I allude to the extension of the authority to create corporations for various purposes, conferred on the courts of common pleas, by the 13th, 14th, 15th and 16th sections of the act of the 13th of October, 1840, entitled "An act relating to orphans' courts and for other purposes." Charters of incorporation are procured under this law, on application to the respective courts of common pleas, without being subjected to any other restraint or control, than their own hasty perusal. Notice, to be sure, is directed to be given, but that is of little avail. There is no common standard for the whole State, as was the case when these charters were to be approved, by the Attorney General, and the judges of the supreme court, and enrolled in the department of State, at the seat of Government. Under the old system, there was uniformity in the provisions contained in these charters, but now, under this new law, the discretion of different courts may essentially differ, and ultimate confusion and disorder cannot fail to ensue. These domestic corporations, as they may be called, are of great service to the public, but it may be fairly questioned whether it will not detract from their uses, to render their creation a matter too ready and unchecked. I invite your attention to this subject, and if you should agree with me in opinion, it will be easy to remove all ground of complaint, by restoring the power of granting these charters, to the hands in which it has been safely lodged, for upward of half a century. The delay and inconvenience of the old system, were fully counterbalanced by the certainty, consistency and uniformity of the corporate powers and privileges enjoyed by the corporations created.

The Legislature, by the act of 16th June, 1836, conferred equity, or chancery powers, on our supreme court, courts of common pleas and district courts, in certain specified cases. There are also certain other enactments, on the subject, in the 39th section of the act of 13th June, 1840, and perhaps in other acts. It is stated that some of the provisions of these various laws are incongruous, that the jurisdiction conferred is not expressly defined, and it has been decided by the supreme court, that the parties aggrieved have no redress by appeal from the inferior tribunal to the supreme court, or by writ of error from the latter to the former. If it be deemed advisable to retain the features of these enactments in our jurisprudence, it would seem requisite, that the evils complained of, should be removed by legislative enactment.

I would also recommend an examination into the State and condition of the extent and business of the several judicial districts of this Commonwealth, so that the amount of labor of the several President Judges, some of whom are at present overburdened, may be in some measure equalized.

There are complaints of the accumulation of business in the courts of the city and county of Philadelphia, and especially of the difficulty of reaching, in a reasonable time, the trial of causes at *nisi prius* in the supreme court. This last is said to arise from the time that the court is necessarily obliged to devote to the business in bank, where they have to decide appeals, and writs of error. Whether such complaints be well founded or not, I am not prepared to say. A careful examination into the whole subject, and such enactments as shall be found necessary to meet any evils that may exist in the administration of justice, and give to every one an opportunity of speedily trying his cause, is respectfully recommended.

It is often made the subject of complaint, that the decisions of the Supreme Court are not published under the supervision of a Reporter, appointed by authority of law. I think it is worthy your inquiry, whether the public interest would not be promoted, by providing for the appointment of such a Reporter, who shall be responsible to the public, for the manner in which he discharges his duty.

Complaints continue to be made in many counties of the manner of selecting jurors. Unless some additional guard be thrown around this inestimable right, public confidence in the trial by jury will be much diminished. This most wise, and venerable of all human and social institutions, must be guarded against the possibility of encroachments, and this long boasted bulwark of liberty, protected from prostitution to purposes not intended by the constitution. I therefore recommend that the jurors be annually selected by the judges of the Court of Common Pleas, or some two of them, together with the Sheriff, and that they be drawn by them in open Court, or that some other provision be made, that the trial by jury may be respected and effectually secured.

The laws relative to collateral inheritances imperatively call for revision, in order to insure the collection of money from that source. I respectfully recommend the adoption of the amendment suggested in a former communication, to enjoin it upon the registers of wills to inquire of all executors and administrators on oath, at the time of granting letters, whether the estate of their testator, or intestate, will be, in their opinion, the subject of the laws relative to collateral inheritances, and that the Register give notice of all such to the Attorney General, or his deputy, whose duty it shall be to make a record thereof, and enforce the collection, from time to time, of the moneys arising therefrom, and hand over his record to his successor in office.

The eighth section of the sixth article of the constitution provides, that all officers, whose election or appointment is not therein provided for, shall be elected or appointed as shall be directed by law. There has been no legislative action on this subject, so far as regards the offices of Surveyor General, Secretary of the Land Office and Auditor General, since the adoption of that instrument.—As the commissions of the present incumbents will expire on the 10th day of May next; it would seem to be a suitable time, for providing by law, for the tenure of those offices. They, with the Secretary of the Commonwealth, constitute what is usually denominated the cabinet, and the Executive is answerable to public opinion for the manner in which they perform their duties; yet under the existing laws he possesses no power of removing them, even for the most palpable dereliction of duty during the time for which they are commissioned. I respectfully commend this subject to your attention, and that those officers be placed, as to tenure, on the same footing as the constitution has placed that of the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

So far as respects the office of Attorney General it seems proper that the tenure should remain as it is. It is in truth a common law office—the incumbent is the legal adviser of the Governor, and heads of department, and is the legal hand by which the Executive functions are performed.

The duty will probably devolve on you to make provision for the election of representatives, to represent this State in the Congress of the United States. As soon as Congress shall have decided on the apportionment, according to the last census, no time shall be lost to lay the same before you.

The report of the Superintendent of Common Schools, will put you in possession of the state and condition of our colleges, academies, female seminaries and schools. The general evil, of which we have just cause to complain, is the incompetency of many of those employed as teachers. The compensation to them is generally low, and yet it is generally more than many of them can earn as teachers, if the possession of knowledge and the capacity to impart it, be requisites for those entrusted with the moral and mental training of the rising generation. Upon this, and upon all other subjects connected with the important work of education, I must refer you to the report and documents which the Superintendant will furnish, and shall only remark, that I will most cheerfully co-operate in any and all measures, which shall place the means of acquiring a sound and practical education within the reach of all the children of the Commonwealth—elevate the character, and improve the qualifications of our teachers, and enlarge the usefulness, and increase the benefits to be derived from our colleges, academies and seminaries. A sound education, under proper moral and religious training, is the best legacy a parent can bequeath to his child, and the best provisions a patriot can make to secure the permanance of republicanism in its purity. To our system of common schools alone, can we look as the means of imparting this education; and on this system, at last, as the cornerstone, must we rest our free institutions, and our best hopes, to see them descend unshaken, to those who come after us.

The duties of the Superintendant of Public Schools have become so onerous, as to occupy almost the entire attention of the incumbent, and to leave him but little time to devote to the other duties of Secretary of the Commonwealth. I respectfully recommend this subject to your consideration, and whether a regard to the public interest does not require a separation of the duties of Superintendent, from that of the Secretary of the Commonwealth.

I cannot but repeat what I said in my first annual message, that we are in need of a proper system of school books, to be used in our schools, and which should be composed by competent persons for the instruction of the youths of Pennsylvania; such a course, as would tend properly to impress our youth with a due regard for our own Commonwealth, and endear her to their hearts. Her position, wealth and intelligence; the admirable and free system of her laws; her unwavering patriotism and devotion to republican principles: her distinguished philanthropy and benevolence, entitle her, in a pre-eminent degree, to the love and veneration of her children, who should be early taught to estimate her great characteristics.

The twenty-third section of the first article of the constitution of this Commonwealth provides, that "every bill, which shall have passed both Houses, shall be presented to the Governor. If he approve he shall sign it, but if he shall not approve, he shall return it, with his objections, to the House in which it originated, who shall enter the objections at large upon their journals and proceed to reconsider it." The section then proceeds to provide, that such bill, so returned, shall not become a law, unless two-thirds of each House shall, on a call of the yeas and nays, agree to pass the bill. This provision was inserted in our constitution of 1790, and retained in that of 1838, from a conviction of its use as well as necessity. It was intended for the protection of the people against hasty, improvident and improper legislation. The constitution, while it gives to the two Houses the right to prepare, to amend and pass the several bills, still makes the Executive an active constituent part of the legislative power. This concurrence, in acts of legislation, is required to be expressed in an approbation of the act proposed. When he conscientiously believes that the proposed measure is wrong, he would be reprehensible, were he to give an approbation he cannot feel. Deriving his power and authority directly from the people of the whole State, his interposition of the veto power, may be essentially necessary, to preserve the interest of the Commonwealth, from the operations of local causes. Whatsoever reasons, however, induced the imposition of this duty upon the Executive originally, it is enough to say, that the duty is enjoined in our organic law, and I believe wisely. It has been my lot, as well as that of all my predecessors, I believe, on several occasions, to exercise the power thus conferred. I have always done so with due deliberation, and only when the exigencies of the occasion furnished to me satisfactory and conclusive reasons for so doing. It is, however, a power which I have never hesitated to exercise, when duty required it at my hands. During the last session of the legislature, I was obliged to exercise this power oftener than heretofore. I did so, at a time, when my conduct was about to undergo the ordeal of public opinion, and there seemed to be a disposition to make the exercise of this power, an important issue before the people. That issue was had, and the result has expressed the voice of the public upon it, in a way not easily misunderstood.

Had the duty, thus enjoined by the constitution upon the Executive, been freely and fearlessly performed, in the early legislation upon the subject of our internal improvements, we should not now be involved in debt to the extent we are, and there would not have been millions of dollars expended upon works of doubtful utility, or of minor public importance. Our main and leading avenues of intercommunication alone, would have been constructed, and the State saved from all danger of being dishonored by failing to meet her engagements. Far be it from me to reflect on my predecessors, but it is our duty to gather wisdom from experience, and to avoid, as far as possible, the repetition of error.

In the months of June and August next, the commissions of the militia officers within this Commonwealth will expire by their own limitation. It would, therefore seem to be a fit time to take up that very important, but much abused subject. One of our most important duties is to cherish and encourage the true military spirit among our citizen soldiers. In war, and in all trying emergencies, on them we must rely, chiefly, to protect our homes and firesides from aggression,—our national honor from insult,—and our liberty from destruction. It is too much the habit of some, who should know better, to decry and underrate our militia and volunteers. Those who remember their services in the revolution, and late war, with Great Britain, entertain a very different opinion. Let the organization of volunteer companies be promoted,—let them be furnished with arms and accoutrements,—let them devote all the time they can spare, to the acquisition of military discipline, and they will speedily silence the voice of censure and of prejudice, and strengthen the arm of our national defence.

A convention was held within the last season for the purpose of devising and recommending a more effective military system, and the result of their labors will shortly be laid before you; in relation to which I take occasion to say, that the opinions of that convention, combining as it does, much of the talent, experience and military knowledge of the country, will be entitled to, and doubtless will receive at your hands, the most respectful consideration. American freemen should never lose sight of the solemn injunction of the father of our country, "in time of peace prepare for war."

The geological survey of the State is nearly completed,—the past season having brought the explorations to a close. As soon as the field work can be reduced to shape, the State geologist will, this winter, enter upon the preparation of his general report, intended to embody the results of the whole survey. While the final report is in progress, the engraving of the maps and drawings, which will require time, and the arrangements of the State Cabinets, as far as they are in readiness, might be advantageously commenced. As a portion of the work can be put to press before the meeting of the next Legislature, it seems advisable that provision should be now made, for preparing and publishing the details. This very important survey, developing the nature and extent of our immense mineral resources, having been prosecuted steadfastly to its completion, sound policy and economy certainly require that the results should be embodied and published with all possible despatch.

To the enormous amount of capital invested in our various works of internal improvement, admonishes us to exert our utmost power, to render them productive. There is one matter connected with this subject, to which I desire to call your earnest attention. The experience of every year proves more clearly the necessity of our action upon it. I allude to the removal of obstructions from the channel of the Ohio river. The general government has several times directed its inquiries into this measure, but has never yet undertaken the effectual execution of the project. It is a measure in which Pennsylvania is most deeply, but not alone interested. The great and growing western and southwestern States, embracing nearly the entire valley of the Mississippi and its tributaries, have a direct and abiding interest in its speedy completion, as well as Pennsylvania. For the important national purposes, of transporting the mail, for transferring armies, and conveying the munitions of war, it is of quite as great moment. Indeed it addresses itself to every duty, state and national, and appeals to every interest that should command the care and guardianship of both governments, in a manner not easily resisted.

Considering it, (as the legislative guardians of Pennsylvania,) we are constrained to urge it upon the general government on grounds the most just and unanswerable. Cut off, as the navigable communication with our improvements, is, from Pittsburg to Louisville, for a large portion of the year, it diminishes the value of those improvements to a ruinous degree,—forces business upon other less direct and convenient routes, and, of course, operates to the serious disadvantage of the mercantile, agricultural, and manufacturing classes of our citizens. It is a singular and startling fact, that insurances on goods to be delivered at Cincinnati, are now effected in the city of Philadelphia cheaper and more readily, by the way of the New York canals, Lake Erie and the Ohio canal, than by the direct and natural route through our own improvements to Pittsburg. I learn that the whole difficulty in this particular, lies in the uncertainty of the navigable state of the Ohio river. Thus is a large share of business daily diverted from our public improvements, and the probability, nay the certainty is, that as regular lines of transportation are established on those collateral improvements, the diversion of business will be greatly augmented. We are most imperatively called upon to look to this matter before it is too late.

In the commencement of her stupendous system of public improvements, this State was induced to incur the vast liability she did, under a conviction that the trade and business of the west and south would afford an adequate return. It was on the general assurance that this would be secured to her, that she opened the highway to the sea-board for those rich and vast interior regions. Pennsylvania now relies on the sense of justice, which she knows will on this, as on all subjects actuate her sister States, in determining on a measure calculated to alleviate the burthen that is weighing down her citizens. Those States which, during the progress of our vast line of improvements from Philadelphia to Pittsburg, looked on with an interest little less lively than our own, [illegible] should their aid [illegible] rendering [illegible] in [illegible] Ohio accessible at all practical seasons, [illegible] the entire line of improvements [illegible] Pennsylvania, now when experience has [illegible] of this measure. I trust the Legislature will exert its utmost efforts, to engage the [illegible] in this work, which is so obviously [illegible] constitutional power, and by sound policy.

It is proper to mention two other measures of national policy in connection with this subject, in both of which this State has such an interest, as to justify the interposition of the Legislature. I speak in reference to the establishment of a National Foundry, and the construction of a Dry Dock at Philadelphia. The first of these has several engaged the attention of Congress, and seems likely to be received with general favor. Not disparaging the claims of other sections of the country, we may without fear of contradiction on very rational grounds, that in Pennsylvania the most conclusive reasons [illegible] central position, our continuity [illegible] our numerous and perfectly safe [illegible] with almost every section of the Union, and above all, the deposits of coal and iron scattered throughout our borders, to an extent unknown in any other quarter of the world. We have in these every [illegible] to recommend some point, perhaps in the valley of the Susquehanna, to the selection of Congress as a site for a National Foundry; and the same reasons in point of location apply with equal force in favor of constructing a Dry Dock at Philadelphia. In addition to these its safety from the attacks of an enemy, its fresh water supplies, its conveniences of procuring timber and workmen, all conspire to enforce its claims upon the notice of the General Government in the most convincing form. I will cheerfully co-operate with you in any manner deemed most advisable in impressing these considerations upon the National Government. If properly represented I do not think they can be overlooked.

The recent convulsions in our commercial affairs have tended to the deep and lasting injury of this Commonwealth. I fear it will require years of industry, prudence and integrity, to wipe out the stain from our escutcheon, and to restore us to that solid, manly and proud footing we once occupied in the estimation of the world. The wild and heedless spirit of speculation, and stock gambling has brought disgrace to our doors, and stamped every thing depending on our business fidelity, with suspicion and discredit. This taint of character has extended too far. It has reached the whole community, when in truth it ought to have been confined to those only, whose folly, imprudence, or dishonesty gave color to the charge. The great body of our citizens are free from debt, have never engaged in ruinous fancy stock speculations, are abundantly able and willing to comply with all their obligations, to each other, and to the citizens of every other State or country. It is true our situation and habits of business have rendered us a debtor State, and subjected us to responsibilities, which might easily have been avoided under a different system of policy. We purchase large amounts of manufactured goods of all kinds from the eastern States, to consume ourselves, and to sell to the citizens of the south and south-west. We are liable on the failure of our debtors to pay for the commodities we purchased, and sold to them, and we of course must pay for those we use ourselves.—We can only discharge these debts in cash, or by selling to our eastern manufacturers, our coal and iron in their raw state. This very iron, in a thousand shapes, we purchase afterwards at an enormous advance for the labor bestowed on its manufacture, and thus become debtors for labor that we ought to perform ourselves. For leather, boots, shoes &c., cloths and other domestic manufactures, we are daily incurring immense debts to the citizens of other States, and are now, in the hour of our necessities, feeling the heavy hand of the creditor laid on all our resources.

This ought not to be. It is unworthy the great State of Pennsylvania to depend on the manufactures of other States or of foreign countries, to supply her citizens with those articles for the various purposes of life, which they can produce themselves as well, as cheaply, and as abundantly as any other people on the face of the globe. Our valleys teeming with plenty, our hills with exhaustless coal and iron deposits—our streams abounding with water power for all purposes, unsurpassed by that in any other country—and our citizens stimulated by enterprise and possessing means to render it effectual, should awaken in us that spirit of independence which disdains to seek at the hands of others that which it can furnish with its own. It is with no feelings of envy, or of local jealousy of others, that I bring this subject to your notice, but with an honest feeling of State pride, and a generous emulation, which should inspire us with a determination not to be indebted to others for those solid and useful means of promoting our prosperity and independence, which nature has bounteously lavished on our own citizens.

The duty of encouraging manufacturing establishments, to convert to useful purposes our coal and iron, and indeed to supply all our domestic wants, has become one of peculiarly imperative obligation. The commercial calamity under which we are suffering, has been so much heightened by the circumstances to which I have just adverted, and the inability of our citizens to perform all their contracts has been so greatly exaggerated by the interested and malicious in other States, that self-respect, as well as public spirit, calls upon us most emphatically to turn a kind and cherishing eye to their advancement. Every measure that can conduce to this end, will meet my most hearty concurrence. I think inquiries on this subject should be instituted. We want facts as the basis of legislative encouragement. Let them be diligently sought for, and when ascertained, let them be promptly applied to some useful purpose. It is high time the Legislature of Pennsylvania should remember that the interest of Pennsylvania are confided to their especial care. It is a source of pride and gratification to reflect, that but a small amount of the indebtedness to other States, which is now griping and annoying us, is for commodities disposed of to our own citizens. Nearly every dollar of the domestic debt has been faithfully paid. The sum now due is for sales made to purchasers in the west and south-west, for whom Pennsylvanians are in truth merely to be regarded as the guarantors. This circumstance is entirely overlooked by our detractors, who are attempting to hold the citizens of Pennsylvania to a rigid accountability, as if she were the very *pack-horse* of the Union to bear more than her share of all its burthens and responsibilities. This is unjust—we owe it to ourselves to assume our true position.

Permit me fellow-citizens, in conclusion, to urge upon you a thorough and searching inquiry into all abuses of government and all expenditures of the public money, which are not clearly warranted by enlightened prudence. The condition of the public treasury demands this at your hands,—and the people confidently trust, that those to whom they have confided the guardianship of their interests, will faithfully perform the duty both of inquiring into, and correcting all the evils they find to exist. It will afford me great pleasure to co-operate with you, in the completion of this salutary work. We may meet for a time with obstacles,—we will doubtless encounter resistance on the part of those who are interested in perpetuating either abuses or extravagance; but ultimately, we cannot fail to triumph over all difficulties, and to carry into effectual practical operation the great principles of economy and reform,—the only true and solid basis on which those who administer the affairs of republican governments, can rest their claims to popular confidence and support.

DAVID R. PORTER.

Executive Chamber, }
5th January, 1842. }

Message of Governor of Iowa.

This document is short. It recommends to the Legislature an appeal to Congress for an appropriation to remove the obstruction to the navigation of the Upper Mississippi, and insists that the river navigation of the West is as much entitled to the aid of the General Government as the improvement of Eastern harbors, bays, and rivers. He says that the loss of property on the Rapids during a few years, added to the increased price of freight, is equal to the amount necessary to cut a channel through their whole extent.

Paper Trade of the U. States.

According to an estimate recently made at a Convention of Paper Makers, the machinery and paper mill property at the present time in the United States, are valued at $16,000,000—the paper manufactured amounts to $15,000,000 per annum—the raw stock collected in the United States, to about $6,000,000 per annum, and the amount of stock consumed is stated at about 175,000,000 pounds. From fifty to sixty thousand persons are employed in the various operations connected with the trade for a livelihood.

City Loan.

Amid the general outcry against stocks, we are glad to find that the city of Philadelphia enjoys an excellent reputation with its fundholders. A loan of the city became due a year or two since,—but a part of it was renewed on account of the situation of the Banks. The loan is again due, and the city now comes forward with an offer to pay the loan, in gold or silver, or its equivalent. But the holders of the loan seem in no hurry to receive their money. This is a rare thing in these times of panic.

The Raritan.

A large number of mechanics are employed in finishing this vessel; she has been on the stocks nearly twenty two years. Owing to the delay on the part of the government in having her completed, some of her timbers have been sadly impaired; an entire new keel has to be put in her. She is so constructed as to induce us to believe that there will be very few frigates in our service who can compete with her so far as sailing is concerned.

Converts to Catholicity.

Among the recent distinguished converts to the Romish faith, is the Rev. Mr. Vanbrugh Livingston, of the Episcopal Church. He is well known for his defence of the Oxford Theology, Puseyism, and for a reply to Bishop McIlvaine. Two sons of the Rev. Dr. Cox, a Presbyterian Clergyman have recently been ordained into the Service of the Pope of Rome.

Justice Wiley.

This individual who was tried lately in New York for being an accomplice after the fact of the robbery of the Frederick county Bank, has been found guilty. This is as it should be. When a magistrate stoops to participate in crime for the purpose of emolument, it is time that the outraged laws should be avenged.

Governor of Maryland.

The inauguration of Gov. Thomas of Maryland, took place on Monday. In his inaugural Address, Gov. T. said that as the Executive did not constitute a part of the Legislative power, it was hardly necessary for him to declare his views on any question which now agitated the public mind.

Boston Fires.

During 1841, the fire department in Boston, was called out 136 times—26 being false alarms. The engines were used but at 16 fires, and 34 fires were extinguished without the aid of the engines. The amount of the property destroyed was $38,000; insured $27,000.

From Buenos Ayres.

The Boston Post contains a letter from Buenos Ayres, from which we glean the following intelligence:

General Acha, leaving in command a remnant of about two hundred infantry, was overcome, taken, and executed, about the 20th of August last, near the city of San Juan, by about six hundred men under the command of Benevides, (Federalists.) Acha's head was cut off and placed in public, for exhibition. San Juan has by this defeat, passed into the hands of the Federalists.

On the 19th ult. General Oribe, with twenty-three hundred men at Monte Grand, province of Tucuman, gained a complete victory over General Lavalle, having an army of about eighteen hundred men, in which Lavalle, and a few of his followers only, escaped with difficulty in the direction of Bolivia, having lost all his infantry, artillery, a large quantity of war stores, and even his baggage, leaving six hundred men dead on the field—many wounded, and a large number taken prisoners, among whom was Colonel Borda, who was executed on the spot. The loss of Gen. Oribe is represented as inconsiderable; one captain killed, and three or four officers wounded.

General Pacheco (Federalist) with three thousand troops, at Rodeo del Medio, near Mendoza, on the 24th ult. defeated General La Madrid with a considerable force. The battle lasted three hours. Pacheco lost eighteen killed, and had eighty wounded. La Madrid fled to the Cordilleras, leaving behind him four hundred killed, five hundred taken prisoners, nine pieces of artillery, four flags, his horses and provisions. Among the killed were six commanding, and sixty-seven subordinate officers. La Madrid, with about two hundred followers, it is supposed will perish among the snow and ice of the Andes. Mendoza has thus fallen to the victors.

These successes of the Federalists, if as grand as they are represented, will no doubt give them a permanent ascendency in the west and upper provinces.

General Echague, in Entre Rios, has commenced his march upon Corrientes, to attack the army of General Paz, who is now the most formidable enemy of General Rosas and of the Federal cause. General Rivera, President of the Banda Oriental, has left Montevideo precipitately, and, it is supposed, with designs to cross the Uruguay, to divert Echague or attack him in the rear.

Admiral Coe, with his fleet, was off this port a few days since, but has returned to Montevideo, where he is fitting another vessel, purchased by his Government, to add to the squadron. This Government has purchased a Danish vessel, fitted as a man of war, which will add considerable to the force of Admiral Brown.

The Mandarin Massacre.

The St. Augustine News furnishes the following account of the recent Indian Massacre, at Mandarin.

On Friday last, (a few days previous,) a party of 21 Indian warriors came into the neighborhood of the Mandarin settlement, which is situated on the east bank of St. Johns, 20 miles north of this city, and 15 miles above Jacksonville.

After reconnoitering the various plantations, they on Monday afternoon caught a negro belonging to Mr. William Hartley, who was out squirrel hunting, and at evening proceeded toward the settlement for the purpose of plundering the store, but as the negro told them there were many men in that direction, they turned back to the Hartley neighborhood, which is near Julington creek, and about four miles from the St. Johns, and from which they had seen the men depart, who were gone on a gunning party of two days.

Approaching the house of William Hartley, they put the negro forward, and as he came to the door, they fired three rifles, killing Mrs. Hartley, and her child of a year old, and Mr. Domingo Acosta. A Mr. Mulphus, also in the house, was shot—he ran for the pine barren, and there died. The infant was killed by the ball which killed the mother.

They then proceeded to the other plantations while the alarmed inhabitants managed to escape from their houses, as though by a miracle. The houses of Nathaniel and George Hartley were successively visited, plundered and burned, with the outbuildings—they then returned to the house of William Hartley, which they also plundered and fired; the bodies of his wife and child and of Mr. Acosta were consumed.

The Indians still detaining the negro as a prisoner, next proceeded to a division of the plunder and money they had taken—they remained about the premises till towards morning, and then retired.

The other inhabitants of Mandarin, when the alarm reached them, were too fully employed, each in placing his own family in safety, (many were put on board a schooner which lay at anchor off the place,) to think of combining for offensive operations.

More Murders in Florida.

The Indians made their appearance on the morning of the 20th ult., within three miles of Mandarin, near the St. Augustine road, burned a house, and murdered the whole family, consisting of a Mr. Hartly, wife and child. They were destroyed in the flames. Where are the troops? It appears that Indians can be found somewhat nearer than the everglades.

We further learn that a Mr. La Coste, was also killed. The Indians burned three houses, and carried off several negroes, one of whom escaped. It is said that the Indians numbered twenty-one, and were supposed to be a part of Halleck Tustenuggee's tribe.

Lt. Col. Riley returned to Palatka on the 21st, from his expedition to the head waters of the St. Johns. He had discovered no Indians. Col. Worth is at Tampa. A company of regulars was to be sent from Fort King to Jacksonville in quest of the Indian murderers.

The steamer Col. Harney has gone to Key Biscayne, to take the Indians recently come in at that post to the West.

A correspondent at St. Augustine writes as follows:

St. Augustine, Dec. 22, 1841.

Last night a negro man arrived at Picolata from Mandarin, and reported that some three or four persons had been murdered near that village. At 5 o'clock this morning, Lt. Judd, of the 3d artillery, commanding the company stationed here, left with all the men he could muster, twenty in number, for the purpose of ascertaining the correctness of the report, and if true, to find the Indians, if possible. In haste, yours, &c.

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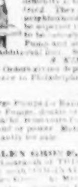

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Ballad by Macaulay.

The following ballad is from the pen of T. Babington Macaulay, Esq. The subject is the battle of Naseby. The ballad is supposed to be spoken by one of the grim old iron independents of Ireton's regiment. How the storm of war rolls and surges through the lines.

Oh! wherefore come ye forth in triumph from the North
  With your hands, and your feet, and your raiment all red?
And wherefore doth your rout send forth a joyous shout?
  And whence be the grapes of the wine-press which ye tread?

Oh evil was the root, and bitter was the fruit,
  And crimson was the juice of the vintage that we trod;
For we trampled on the throng of the haughty and the strong,
  Who sate in the high places and slew the saints of God.

It was about the noon of a glorious day in June
  That we saw their banners dance and their cuirasses shine,
And the Man of Blood was there, with his long essenced hair,
  And Astley and Sir Marmaduke, and Rupert of the Rhine.

Like a servant of the Lord, with his Bible and his sword,
  The General rode along us to form us for the fight,
When a murmuring sound broke out, and swell'd into a shout,
  Among the godless horsemen upon the tyrant's right.

And hark! like the roar of the billows on the shore,
  The cry of battle rises along their charging line!
For God! for the Cause! for the Church! for the Laws!
  For Charles, King of England, and Rupert of the Rhine!

The furious German comes, with his clarions and his drums,
  His bravoes of Alsatia and pages of Whitehall;
They are bursting on our flanks. Grasp your pikes!—Close your ranks,—
  For Rupert never comes but to conquer or to fall.

They are here—they rush on—We are broken—we are gone—
  Our left is borne before them like stubble on the blast,
O Lord, put forth thy might! O Lord, defend the right!
  Stand back to back, in God's name, and fight it to the last.

Stout Skippon hath a wound—the centre hath given ground
  Hark! hark!—What means the trampling of horsemen on our rear?
Whose banner do I see, boys? 'Tis he, thank God, 'tis he, boys.
  Bear up another minute. Brave Oliver is here.

Their heads all stooping low, their points all in a row,
  Like a whirlwind on the trees, like a deluge on the dykes,
Our cuirassiers have burst on the ranks of the Accurst,
  And at a shock have scattered the forest of his pikes.

Fast, fast, the gallants ride, in some safe nook to hide
  Their coward heads predestined to rot on Temple-Bar,
And he—he turns, he flies,—shame to those cruel eyes
  That bore to look on torture, and dare not look on war!

Ho! comrades, scour the plain: and, ere ye strip the slain,
  First give another stab to make your guest secure;
Then shake from sleeves and pockets their broad-pieces and lockets,
  The tokens of the wanton, the plunder of the poor.

Fools, your doublets shone with gold, and your hearts were gay and bold,
  When ye kiss'd your lily hands to your lemans to-day;
And to-morrow shall the fox, from her chambers in the rocks,
  Lead forth her tawny cubs to howl above the prey.

Where be your tongues that late mock'd at heaven and hell and fate,
  And the fingers that once were so busy with your blades,
Your perfum'd satin clothes, your catches and your oaths,
  Your stage plays and your sonnets, your diamonds and your spades?

Down, down, for ever down with the mitre and the crown,
  With the Belial of the court, and the Mammon of the Pope;
There is woe in Oxford Halls: there is wail in Durham's Stalls:
  The Jesuit smites his bosom: the Bishop rends his cope.

And She of the seven hills shall mourn her children's ills,
  And tremble when she thinks on the edge of England's sword;
And the Kings of earth, in fear, shall shudder when they hear
  What the hand of God hath wrought for the Houses and the Word.

IN A BAD WAY.—"Spoons" of the Sunday Mercury is in a sad predicament. He has fallen in love with a fat, squint-eyed woman, who rejoices in the name of "Betsey," and he is grinding out poetry to her with a perfect looseness. Only hear him!

The flowers of fond friendship, I've stolen dear creature,
  And wove me a garland of love
And they'll bloom on forever, when every fair feature
  Of your'n is bewilted, my dove.
    Yet I'd like to know whether
    All though this cold weather
    We can't live together,
  Like a couple of coons—
    As happy and pleasant
    As a patridge or pheasant—
    No more for the present
  Your affectionate   SPOONS

HOOSIER GIRLS.—A correspondent, says the N. O. Picayune, wishes us to write a story which, we are very sure, is a libel upon the girls of Hoosier land. He says he was at a ball in that region a while ago, but made no acquaintance until after supper. When supper was over, he was surprised to notice that many came back to the dancing room with all sorts of eatables. Feeling disposed to take a share in the frolick, he stepped up to a bouncing lass, and asked if she would honor him with her hand in a dance—

"In course I shall," said she, calling to her sister—"here, Sal, just hold my 'tater while I take a trot with this ere hoss."

ORTHOGRAPHY.—Col. Stone says he has received a communication from a member of the N. York Senate, which beats everything he ever saw in the way of orthography.

"The boy who contrived to spell coffee without using a letter properly belonging to the word—*kaughphy*—can only form his parallel. We cite a few examples, *cort*—sort, *yoose*—use, *noon*—known, *bin*—been, *applyed*—applied. But now comes the best—*youneon*. Guess what that spells. Union, you simpleton!"

The Burial.

BY H. K. WHITE

Oh, what is Beauty's power!
  It flourishes and dies,
Will the cold earth its silence break
To tell how soft, how smooth a cheek
  Beneath its surface lies!
  Mute, mute is all
  O'er beauty's fall;
Her praise resounds no more when mantled in her pall.

WESTERN ELOQUENCE.—The following striking extract, is from a late speech by a distinguished lawyer in Illinois:—

"Feller Citizens,—Just as sartin as General Andrew Jackson, writ that affectin' epic Robinson Crusoe,—by the great principles developed in John Quincy Adam's bewtiful melody, Paradise Lost—why by all these and a few more I can't think of, I proclaim that nigger over there, the very feller who stole Jake Joneses sheep—I do by hokey."

A WINTER SCRAP.—The following quaint epitaph was written on the tombstone of a youth at Frith, in Denbighshire, England. The comparison is seasonable:

Our life is but a winter's day;
Some only breakfast, and away;
Others to dinner stay, and are full fed,
The oldest man but sups and goes to bed;
Large is his debt, who lingers out the day,
Who goes the soonest, has the least to pay.

PURITY OF HEART.—Purity of heart, is of all virtues the most elevated. A Greek maid being asked what fortune she would bring her husband, answered, "I will bring him what is more valuable than any treasure—a heart unspotted, and virtue without a stain, which is all that descended to me from my parents."

A WONDERFUL TELESCOPE.—An Irishman was speaking of the excellence of a telescope. "Do you see that wee speck on the hill yonder? That now, is my old pig, though it is hardly discernable; but when I look at him with my glass, it brings him so near that I can plainly hear him grunt."

DECIDED GENTILITY.—"I'd have you to know, Mrs. Stoker, that my uncle was a bannister of the law!" "A fig for your bannister," retorted Mrs. Grubb, turning up her nose, and putting her arms akimbo, "havn't I a cousin as is a corridor in the navy."

A HEAVY LOAD.—The New York Mechanic has an account of a little boy who lately walked nearly a mile, carrying on his shoulder an iron article which weighs *twelve hundred pounds!* Don't start, reader—the article was "*patent steelyards!*"

MATRIMONY.—Let no man embark on the voyage of matrimony, under the idea that the sea is forever calm—the sky always serene."

Of course—when a man gets *overed*, he looks out for squalls.

"The light that lies
In woman's eyes!"

So reads a favorite old song, and he is called a gallant poet, too, who wrote it.

NEW DISCOVERY.—A genius down west has discovered a method of manufacturing, from one dandy, a monkey, an ape, and three baboons, so as to have enough left for a small yellow dog.

A MOON-STRUCK LOVER.—An exchange paper contains a notice of the marriage of Mr. *Galley* to Miss *Moon*. We suspect this is the only example of a man *galloping to the moon!*

From the Arcturus for January 1842.

The Old Maid in the Winding-Sheet.

BY NATHANIEL HAWTHORNE.

The moon-beams came through two deep and narrow windows, and showed a spacious chamber, richly furnished in an antique fashion. From one lattice, the shadow of the diamond panes was thrown upon the floor; the ghostly light through the other slept on a bed, falling between the heavy silken curtains, and illuminating the face of a young man. But, how quietly the slumberer lay! how pale his features; and how like a shroud the sheet was wound about his frame! Yes; it was a corpse in its burial clothes.

Suddenly, the fixed features seemed to move, with dark emotion. Strange fantasy! It was but the shadow of the fringed curtain, waving betwixt the dead face and the moonlight, as the door of the chamber opened, and a girl stole softly to the bedside. Was there delusion in the moonbeams, or did her gesture and her eye betray a gleam of triumph, as she bent over the pale corpse—pale as itself—and pressed her living lips to the cold ones of the dead! As she drew back from that long kiss, her features writhed, as if a proud heart were fighting with its anguish. Again it seemed that the features of the corpse had moved, responsive to her own. Still an illusion! The silken curtain had waved a second time, betwixt the dead face and the moonlight, as another fair young girl unclosed the door, and glided ghost-like, to the bed-side. There the two maidens stood, both beautiful, with the pale beauty of the dead between them. But she, who had first entered, was proud and stately; and the other, a soft and fragile thing.

"Away!" cried the lofty one. "Thou hadst him living! The dead is mine!"

"Thine!" returned the other shuddering. "Well hast thou spoken! The dead is thine!"

The proud girl started, and stared into her face with a ghastly look. But a wild and mournful expression passed across the features of the gentle one; and, weak and helpless, she sank down upon the bed, her head pillowed beside that of the corpse, and her hair mingling with his dark locks. A creature of hope and joy, the first draught of sorrow had bewildered her.

"Patience!" cried her rival.

Patience groaned, as with a sudden compression of the heart; and removing her cheek from the dead youth's pillow, she stood upright, fearfully encountering the eyes of the lofty girl.

"Wilt thou betray me?" said the latter calmly.

"Till the dead bid me speak, I will be silent," answered Patience. "Leave us alone together! Go, and live many years, and then return and tell me of thy life. He too, will be here! Then, if thou tellest of sufferings more than death, we will both forgive thee!"

"And what shall be the token?" asked the proud girl, as if her heart acknowledged a meaning in these wild words.

"This lock of hair," said Patience, lifting one of the dark clustering curls, that lay heavily on the dead man's brow.

The two maidens joined their hands over the bosom of the corpse, and appointed a day and hour, far, far in time to come, for their next meeting in that chamber. The statelier girl gave one deep look at the motionless countenance, and departed—yet turned again and trembled, ere she closed the door, almost believing that her dead lover frowned upon her. And Patience, too! Was not her white form fading into the moonlight? Scorning her own weakness, she went forth, and perceived that a negro slave was waiting in the passage, with a wax light, which he held between her face and his own, and regarded her, as she thought, with an ugly expression of merriment. Lifting his torch on high, the slave lighted her down the staircase, and undid the portal of the mansion. The young clergyman of the town had just ascended the steps, and bowing to the lady, passed in without uttering a word.

Years, many years rolled on; the world seemed new again, so much older was it grown, since the night when those pale girls had clasped their hands across the bosom of the corpse. In the interval, a lonely woman had passed from youth to extreme age, and was known by all the town, as the "Old Maid in the Winding Sheet." A taint of insanity had affected her whole life, but so quiet, sad, and gentle, so utterly free from violence, that she was suffered to pursue her harmless fantasies, unmolested by the world, with whose business or pleasures she had nought to do. She dwelt alone, and never came into the daylight, except to follow funerals. Whenever a corpse was borne along the street, in sunshine, rain or snow, whether a pompous train of the rich and proud thronged after it, or few and humble were the mourners, behind them came the lonely woman, in a long, white garment which the people called her shroud. She took no place among the kindred or the friends, but stood at the door to hear the funeral prayer, and walked in the rear of the procession, as one whose earthly charge it was to haunt the house of mourning, and be the shadow of affliction, and see that the dead were duly buried. So long had this been her custom, that the inhabitants of the town deemed her a part of every funeral, as much as the coffin-pall, or the very corpse itself, and augured ill of the sinner's destiny, unless the "Old Maid in the Winding Sheet" came gliding, like a ghost, behind. Once, it is said, she affrighted a bridal party with her pale presence, appearing suddenly in the illuminated hall, just as the priest was uniting a false maid to a wealthy man, before her lover had been dead a year. Evil was the omen to that marriage! Sometimes she stole forth by moonlight, and visited the graves of venerable integrity, and wedded love, and virgin innocence, and every spot where the ashes of a kind and faithful heart were mouldering. Over the hillocks of those favored dead would she stretch out her arms, with a gesture, as if she were scattering seeds; and many believed that she sought them from the garden of Paradise; for the graves which she had visited were green beneath the snow, and covered with sweet flowers from April to November. Her blessing was better than a holy verse upon the tomb-stone. Thus wore away her long, sad, peaceful, and fantastic life, till few were so old as she, and the people of later generations wondered how the dead had ever been buried, or mourners had endured their grief, without the "Old Maid in the Winding Sheet."

Still, years went on, and still she followed funerals, and was not yet summoned to her own festival of death. One afternoon, the great street of the town was all alive with business and bustle, though the sun now gilded only the upper half of the church-spire, having left the house-tops and loftiest trees in shadow. The scene was cheerful and animating, in spite of the sombre shade between the high brick buildings. Here were pompous merchants, in white wigs and laced velvet; the bronzed faces of sea-captains; the foreign garb and air of Spanish creoles; and the disdainful port of natives of Old England; all contrasted with the rough aspect of one or two back-settlers, negociating sales of timber, from forests where axe had never sounded. Sometimes a lady passed, swelling roundly forth in an embroidered petticoat, balancing her steps in high-heeled shoes, and courtesying, with lofty grace, to the punctilious obeisances of the gentlemen. The life of the town seemed to have its very centre not far from an old mansion, that stood somewhat back from the pavement, surrounded by neglected grass, with a strange air of loneliness, rather deepened than dispelled by the throng so near it. Its site would have been suitably occupied by a magnificent Exchange, or a brick block lettered all over with various signs; or the large house itself might have made a noble tavern, with the "King's Arms" swinging before it; and guests in every chamber, instead of its present solitude. But, owing to some dispute about the right of inheritance, the mansion had been long without a tenant, decaying from year to year, and throwing the stately gloom of its shadow over the busiest part of the town. Such was the scene, and such the time, when a figure, unlike any that have been described, was observed at a distance down the street.

"I espy a strange sail, yonder," remarked a Liverpool captain; "that woman in the long white garment!"

The sailor seemed much struck by the object, as were several others, who at the same moment, caught a glimpse of the figure that had attracted his notice. Almost immediately, the various topics of conversation gave place to speculations in an under tone, on this unwonted occurrence.

"Can there be a funeral so late the afternoon?" inquired some.

They looked for the signs of death at every door—the sexton, the hearse, the assemblage of black-clad relatives—all that makes up the woeful pomp of funerals. They raised their eyes, also, to the sun-gilt spire of the church, and wondered that no clang proceeded from its bell, which had always tolled till now, when this figure appeared in the light of day. But none had heard that a corpse was to be borne to its home that afternoon, nor was there any token of a funeral, except the apparition of the "Old Maid in the Winding Sheet."

"What may this portend?" asked each man of his neighbor.

All smiled as they put the question, yet with a certain trouble in their eyes, as if pestilence or some other wide calamity, were prognosticated by the untimely intrusion, among the living, of one whose presence had always been associated with death and woe. What a comet is to the earth, was that sad woman to the town. Still she moved on, while the hum of surprise was hushed at her approach, and the proud and the humble stood aside, that her white garment might not wave against them. It was a long, loose robe, of spotless purity. Its wearer appeared very old, pale, emaciated, and feeble, yet glided onward, without the unsteady pace of extreme age.

At one point of her course, a little rosy boy burst forth from a door, and ran, with open arms, toward the ghostly woman, seeming to expect a kiss from her bloodless lips. She made a slight pause, fixing her eye upon him with an expression of no earthly sweetness, so that the child shivered and stood awe-struck, rather than affrighted, while the Old Maid passed on. Perhaps her garment might have been polluted, even by an infant's touch; perhaps her kiss would have been death to the sweet boy, within the year.

"She is but a shadow!" whispered the superstitious. "The child put forth his arms, and could not grasp her robe!"

The wonder was increased, when the Old Maid passed beneath the porch of the deserted mansion, ascended the moss-covered steps, lifted the iron knocker, and gave three raps. The people could only conjecture, that some old remembrance, troubling her bewildered brain, had impelled the poor woman hither to visit the friends of her youth; all gone from their home, long since and forever, unless their ghosts still haunted it—fit company for the "Old Maid in the Winding-Sheet." An elderly man approached the steps, and reverently uncovering his gray locks, essayed to explain the matter.

"None, Madam," said he, "have dwelt in this house these fifteen years agone—no, not since the death of old Colonel Fenwicke, whose funeral you may have remembered to have followed. His heirs, being ill-agreed among themselves, have let the mansion-house go to ruin."

The Old Maid looked slowly round, with a slight gesture of one hand, and a finger of the other upon her lip, appeared more shadow-like than ever, in the obscurity of the porch. But, again she lifted the hammer, and gave, this time, a single rap. Could it be, that a footstep was now heard, coming down the staircase of the old mansion, which all conceived to have been so long untenanted? Slowly, feebly, yet heavily, like the pace of an aged and infirm person, the step approached, more distinct on every downward stair, till it reached the portal. The bar fell on the inside; the door was opened. One upward glance, toward the church-spire, whence the sunshine had just faded, was the last that the people saw of the "Old Maid in the Winding-Sheet."

"Who undid the door?" asked many.

This question, owing to the depth of shadow beneath the porch, no one could satisfactorily answer. Two or three aged men, while protesting against an inference, which might be drawn, affirmed that the person within was a negro, and bore a singular resemblance to old Cæsar, formerly a slave in the house, but freed by death some thirty years before.

"Her summons has waked up a servant of the old family," said one, half seriously.

"Let us wait here," replied another. "More guests will knock at the door, anon. But, the gate of the grave-yard should be thrown open!"

Twilight had overspread the town, before the crowd began to separate, or the comments on this incident were exhausted. One after another was wending his way homeward, when a coach—no common spectacle in those days—drove slowly into the street. It was an old-fashioned equipage, hanging close to the ground, with arms on the pannels, a footman behind, and a grave, corpulent coachman, seated high in front, the whole giving an idea of solemn state and dignity. There was something awful in the heavy rumbling of the wheels. The coach rolled down the street, till, coming to the gateway of the deserted mansion, it drew up, and the footman sprang to the ground.

"Whose grand coach is this?" asked a very inquisitive body.

The footman made no reply, but ascended the steps of the old house, gave three raps with the iron hammer, and returned to open the coach-door. An old man, possessed of the heraldic lore so common in that day, examined the shield of arms on the pannel.

"Azure, lion's head erased, between three flower de luces," said he; then whispered the name of the family to whom these bearings belonged. The last inheritor of its honors was recently dead, after a long residence amid the splendor of the British court, where his birth and wealth had given him no mean station. "He left no child," continued the herald, "and these arms, being in a lozenge, betokened that the coach appertains to his widow."

Further disclosures, perhaps, might have been made, had not the speaker suddenly been struck dumb, by the stern eye of an ancient lady, who thrust forth her head from the coach, preparing to descend. As she emerged, the people saw that her dress was magnificent, and her figure dignified, in spite of age and infirmity—a stately ruin, but with a look, at once, of pride and wretchedness. Her strong and rigid features had an awe about them, unlike that of the white Old Maid, but as of something evil. She passed up the steps, leaning on a gold-headed cane; the door swung open, as she ascended—and the light of a torch glittered on the embroidery of her dress, and gleamed on the pillars of the porch. After a momentary pause—a glance backward—and then a desperate effort—she went in. The decypherer of the coat of arms had ventured up the lowest step, and shrinking back immediately, pale and tremulous, affirmed that the torch was held by the very image of old Cæsar.

"But, such a hideous grin," added he, "was never seen on the face of mortal man, black or white! It will haunt me till my dying day."

Meantime the coach had wheeled round, with a prodigious clatter on the pavement, and rumbled up the street, disappearing in the twilight, while the ear still tracked its course. Scarcely was it gone, when the people began to question, whether the coach and attendants, the ancient lady, the spectre of old Cæsar, and the Old Maid herself, were not all a strangely combined delusion with some dark purport in its mystery. The whole town was astir, so that, instead of dispersing, the crowd continually increased, and stood gazing up at the windows of the mansion, now silvered by the brightening moon. The elders, glad to indulge the narrative propensity of age, told of the long faded splendor of the family, the entertainments they had given, and the guests, the greatest of the land, and even titled and noble ones from abroad, who had passed beneath that portal. These graphic reminiscences seemed to call up the ghosts of those to whom they referred. So strong was the impression, on some of the more imaginative hearers, that two or three were seized with trembling fits, at one and the same moment, protesting that they had distinctly heard three other raps of the iron knocker.

"Impossible!" exclaimed others. "See! The moon shines beneath the porch, and shows every part of it, except in the narrow shade of that pillar. There is no one there!"

"Did not the door open?" whispered one of these fanciful persons.

"Didst thou see it, too?" said his companion, in a startled tone.

But the general sentiment was opposed to the idea, that a third visitant had made application at the door of the deserted house. A few, however, adhered to this new marvel, and even declared that a red gleam, like that of a torch, had shone through the great front window, as if the negro were lighting a guest up the staircase. This, too, was pronounced a mere fantasy. But, at once, the whole multitude started, and each man beheld his own terror painted in the faces of all the rest.

"What an awful thing is this!" cried they.

A shriek, too fearfully distinct for doubt, had been heard within the mansion, breaking forth suddenly, and succeeded by a deep stillness, as if a heart had burst in giving it utterance. The people knew not whether to fly from the very sight of the house, or to rush trembling in, and search out the strange mystery. Amid their confusion and affright, they were somewhat reassured by the appearance of their clergyman, a venerable patriarch, and equally a saint, who had taught them and their fathers the way to heaven, for more than the space of an ordinary life-time. He was a reverend figure, with long, white hair upon his shoulders, a white beard upon his breast, and a back so bent over his staff, that he seemed to be looking downward, continually, as if to choose a proper grave for his weary frame. It was some time before the good old man, being deaf, and of impaired intellect, could be made to comprehend such portions of the affair, as were comprehensible at all. But, when possessed of the facts, his energies assumed unexpected vigor.

"Verily," said the old gentleman, "it will be fitting that I enter the mansion-house of the worthy Colonel Fenwicke, lest any harm should have befallen that true Christian woman, whom ye call the 'Old Maid in the Winding-Sheet.'"

Behold, then, the venerable clergyman ascending the steps of the mansion, with a torch-bearer behind him. It was the elderly man, who had spoken to the Old Maid, and the same who had afterwards explained the shield of arms, and recognized the features of the negro. Like their predecessors, they gave three raps with the iron hammer.

"Old Cæsar cometh not," observed the priest. "Well I wot, he no longer doth service in this mansion."

"Assuredly, then, it was something worse, in old Cæsar's likeness!" said the other adventurer.

"Be it as God wills," answered the clergyman. "See! my strength though it be much decayed, hath sufficient to open this heavy door. Let us enter, and pass up the staircase."

Here occurred a singular exemplification of the dreamy state of a very old man's mind. As they ascended the wide flight of stairs, the aged clergyman appeared to move with caution, occasionally standing aside and oftener bending his head as it were in salutation, thus practising all the gestures of one who makes his way through a throng. Reaching the head of the staircase, he looked around with sad and solemn benignity, laid aside his staff, bared his hoary locks, and was evidently on the point of commencing a prayer.

"Reverend sir," said his attendant, who conceived this a very suitable prelude to their further search, "would it not be well that the people join with us in prayer?"

"Well-a-day!" cried the old gentleman, staring strangely around him. "Art thou here with me, and none other? Verily, past times were present to me, and I deemed that I was to make a funeral prayer, as many a time heretofore, from the head of this staircase. Of a truth, I saw the shades of many that are gone. Yea, I have prayed at their burials, one after another, and the 'Old Maid in the Winding-Sheet' hath seen them to their graves!"

Being now more thoroughly awake to their present purpose, he took his staff, and struck forcibly on the floor, till there came an echo from each deserted chamber, but no menial, to answer their summons. They therefore walked along the passage, and again paused, opposite to the great front window, through which was seen the crowd, in the shadow and partial moonlight of the street beneath. On their right was the open door of a chamber, and a closed one on their left. The clergyman pointed his cane to the carved oak pannel of the latter.

"Within that chamber," observed he, "a whole life time since, did I sit by the death-bed of a goodly young man, who, being now at the last gasp"—

Apparently, there was some powerful excitement in the ideas which had now flashed across his mind. He snatched the torch from his companion's hand, and threw open the door with such sudden violence, that the flame was extinguished, leaving them no other light than the moonbeams which fell through two windows into the spacious chamber. It was sufficient to discover all that could be known. In a high backed, oaken arm chair, upright, with her hands clasped across her breast, and her head thrown back, sat the "Old Maid in the Winding-Sheet." The stately dame had fallen on her knees, with her forehead on the holy knees of the Old Maid, one hand upon the floor, and the other pressed convulsively against her heart. It clutched a lock of hair, once sable, now discolored with a greenish mould. As the priest and layman advanced into the chamber, the Old Maid's features assumed such a semblance of shifting expression, that they trusted to hear the whole mystery explained by a single word. But it was only the shadow of a tattered curtain, waving betwixt the dead face and the moonlight.

"Both dead!" said the venerable man. "Then who shall divulge the secret! Methinks it glimmers to-and-fro in my mind, like the light and shadow across the Old Maid's face. And now, 'tis gone!"

The Water! The Water!

BY MOTHERWELL.

The Water! the Water!
  The joyous brook for me,
That toneth through the quiet night
  Its ever-living glee.
The Water! the Water!
  That sleepless merry heart,
Which gurgles on unstintedly
  And loveth to impart
To all around it some small measure
Of its own most perfect pleasure.

The Water! the Water!
  The gentle stream for me,
That gushes from the old gray stone,
  Beside the alder tree.
The Water! the Water!
  That ever bubbling spring
I loved and looked on while a child,
  In deepest wondering,—
And asked it whence it came and went,
And when its treasures would be spent.

The Water! the Water!
  The merry, wanton brook,
That bent itself to pleasure me,
  Like mine own shepherd crook.
The Water! the Water!
  That sang so sweet at noon,
And sweeter still at night, to win
  Smiles from the pale proud moon
And from the little fairy faces
That gleam in heaven's remotest places.

The Water! the Water!
  The dear and blessed thing,
That all day fed the little flowers
  On its banks blossoming.
The Water! the Water!
  That murmured in my ear,
Hymns of a saint-like purity,
  That angels well might hear;
And whisper, in the gates of heaven,
How meek a pilgrim had been shriven.

The Water! the Water!
  Where I have shed salt tears,
In loneliness and friendliness,
  A thing of tender years.
The Water! the Water!
  Where I have happy been,
And showered upon its bosom flowers
  Culled from each meadow green,
And idly hoped my life would be
So crowned by love's idolatry.

The Water! the Water!
  My heart yet burns to think
How cool thy fountain sparkled forth,
  For parched lip to drink.
The Water! the Water!
  Of mine own native glen;
The gladsome tongue I oft have heard,
  But ne'er shall hear again;
Though fancy fills my ear for aye
With sounds that live so far away!

The Water! the Water!
  The mild and glassy wave,
Upon whose broomy banks I've longed
  To find my silent grave.
The Water! the Water!
  O blessed to me thou art;
Thus sounding in life's solitude,
  The music of my heart,
And filling it, despite of sadness,
With dreamings of departed gladness.

The Water! the Water!
  The mournful pensive tone,
That whispered to my heart how soon
  This weary life was done.
The Water! the Water!
  That rolled so bright and free,
And bade me mark how beautiful
  Was its soul's purity;
And how it glanced to heaven its wave,
As wandering on it sought its grave.

HOPE.—A strong mind always hopes, and has always cause to hope, because it knows the mutability of human affairs, and how slight a circumstance may change the whole course of events.

Ladies Department.

Marriage.

Differences of opinion, and taste, and infirmities of temper, ought, in some measure, to be anticipated; and the duties of the married state to be entered upon with the expectation that they will require *concession and sacrifice*.

Temper, while it has a very material bearing on the complexion of domestic life, is perhaps the most difficult point of any to ascertain. It is not always the apparently good-humored, who have the most agreeable temper; neither the seemingly severe who are always the most hard to please. Not unfrequently the latter are, to those they love, the most uniformly tender; and are at least subject to caprice, than others who appear more indulgent.

Similar tempers are not always the most suitable. On the contrary, as attachment often springs up between persons of dissimilar dispositions, so the points in which they differ at times, appear to suit them specially to each other. The sanguine is chastened by the sober; and again, the hopeful spirit cheers the anxious and desponding. A temper not easily disturbed, allays the heat of one which is irritable; and if the easiness of the former borders on carelessness or indolence, it may be rendered more alert and scrupulous by the sensitiveness with which it is associated.

The tastes and pursuits of married persons must also, it is evident, be mutually of much importance. In these, similarity is, in some respects, desirable; suitability almost essential. Taste, in its extensive sense, bears on almost every particular of conduct. It has so much to do with the minutiæ of life, that, where tastes are wholly dissimilar, they must perpetually be offending one another.

A mutual preference seems, itself, a guaranty for similarity in taste. Still, it is sometimes difficult to conjecture what attraction can have drawn together persons so little capable of sympathy. Perhaps it will be said that such pairs are happier than might be expected. But if some license be allowed for dissimilarity in matters of taste, if the coalition may even be, to an extent, mutually beneficial, so that the fastidious become less critical, the over refined more simple, the exclusive more liberal, by association with a counteracting bias, the difference should be in measure, rather than in kind; or, at least, there should be no jarring, even in the disagreement.

A certain diversity in married persons is intended by nature, and is favorable to mutual improvement. The sedentary student will be agreeably enlivened by his vivacious partner, if her vivacity be the expression of an intelligent mind; and the woman of elegant accomplishment will receive from the superior sense and more valuable attainments of her husband, a higher tone, and will herself be stimulated to advance by her desire of assimilating herself to him. And here it may be observed, that similarity of pursuit, may possibly bring together persons otherwise unsuitable. There is a peculiar fascination in sympathy; and, in ordinary social intercourse, if we find we have a point exclusively in common with any individual, the attraction has a peculiar force. It has not unfrequently been the basis of an attachment which should have rested upon general grounds. For it is not because voices may blend well in a duet, or the flute harmonize with the piano-forte, because the cottage or the school may be visited with mutual interest, that there is a promise of harmony for life, or an assurance of congeniality on points involving daily interests. Inquiry, therefore, should be directed far more to accordance of character, than to similarity upon special points.

If the union be not congenial, no motive of an extrinsic nature should persuade to it. For, as it is the part of woman to adapt herself to her husband, let her ascertain, while still she is at liberty, that such conformity will be easy to her; that his opinions are generally of the same tone with hers; that his temper is suitable to hers; that his pursuits are not distasteful to her, and above all, that his affection is for *herself*—having the permanency of a principle, rather than the transitoriness of a passion, based upon acquaintance with her character, and upon suitable qualities in his own. For such attachment, when really conceived, a woman can scarcely be too grateful. It is the offering of a virtuous heart—a tribute willingly rendered to the object of its preference; it is the link appointed by the Author of all good, to bind together the twin souls which he has formed for union. Surely it may be said that such sympathy is one of the choicest gifts of Heaven—an influence which, when it does bless the upward journey, is an emanation from the fountain of bliss, and is a promise of a holier bond, when love will be perfected.

Wolves Bison Hunting.

Whilst the herd is together the wolves never attack them, as they instantly gather for combined resistance, which they effectually make. But when the herds are travelling, it often happens that an aged or wounded one lingers at a distance behind, and when fairly out of sight of the herd, is set upon by these voracious hunters, which often gather to the number of fifty or more, and are sure at last to torture him to death, and use him up at a meal.

The buffalo, however, is a huge and furious animal, and when his retreat is cut off, makes desperate and deadly resistance, contending to the last moment for the right of life, and oftentimes deals death by wholesale to his canine assailants, which he is tossing in the air or stamping to death under his feet.

During my travels in these regions, I have several times came across such a gang of these animals surrounding an old or a wounded bull, where it would seem from appearance that they had been for several days in attendance, and at intervals desperately engaged in the effort to take his life. But a short time since, as one of my hunting companions and myself were returning to our encampment with our horses loaded with meat, we discovered at a distance a huge bull encircled with a gang of white wolves; we rode up as near as we could without driving them away; and being within pistol-shot, we had a remarkably good view, where I sat for a few moments and made a sketch in my note-book, after which we rode up and gave the signal for them to disperse; which they instantly did, withdrawing themselves to the distance of fifty or sixty rods; when we found, to our great surprise, that the animal had made desperate resistance, until his eyes were entirely eaten out of his head, the grizzle of his nose was mostly gone, his tongue was half eaten off, and the skin and flesh of his legs was torn almost literally into strings. In this tattered and torn condition the poor old veteran stood bracing up in the midst of his devourers; who had ceased hostilities for a few minutes, to enjoy a sort of parley, recovering strength, and preparing to resume the attack in a few moments. In this group was some reclining to gain breath, whilst others were sneaking about and licking their chops in anxiety for a renewal of the attack; and others, less lucky, had been crushed to death by the feet or the horns of the bull. I rode nearer to the pitiable object as he stood bleeding and trembling before me, and said to him, "Now is your time, old fellow, and you had better be off." Though blind and nearly destroyed, there seemed evidently to be a recognition of a friend in me, as he straightened up, and trembling with excitement, dashed off at full speed upon the prairie, in a straight line.

We turned our horses and resumed our march; and when we had advanced a mile or more we looked back, and on our left, where we saw again the ill-fated animal surrounded by his tormentors, to whose insatiable voracity he unquestionably soon fell a victim.—*Catlin.*

Marriage of Men of Letters.

A great error, though a very frequent one, is, that utter solitude and celibacy are suited to the man of letters. That the greatest works require long meditations and perfect repose is true. No less true is it that the periodical critic and essayist must pursue his labors in a state of serenity and partial retirement. The true literary life is a quiet existence. No genuine scholar ever yet loved a crowd. Yet he loves society for conversation, and masses for observation of manners. He loves chiefly domestic pleasures; the good wife has often assisted, and never yet impeded, the occupations of her husband. The inmates of his dwelling learn to respect his hours of solitude and study. A judicious disposal of his time, will leave the master his own master, and the experiences of domesticity will prove more rich and abundant, than the knowledge of the hackneyed courtier or politician.

Privacy may boast of its heroes and heroism that a public scene cannot display. We look in the wrong place for truly great characters; we seek them in high stations, but seldom find them there. Magnanimity, like eloquence, is often found where we least expect it. There are more heroical actions occurring every day in the retirement of private life than are to be seen on the great public stage of the world. There is more of fortitude exhibited, more of patience in suffering, more true benevolence, a nobler charity, a wider and wiser generosity, deeper affection, and higher aims than the mind of a mere worldling can conceive. The reason is plain. The greatest intellects seek repose from vain struggles of ambition and inefficient plans of improvement. The gravest business of life rightly viewed, is a mere farce, and those pleasing labors and endearing adversities, that make up a private life of contented trial and consequent happiness, are in fact higher and of more real importance. Domestic life is the only field for a certain class of virtues, by no means the least in value. These are of the softer and milder kind, amiable and attractive. Home is the school of the affections, as the world affords the test of the will and intellect. In that embowered valley bloom the sweet flowers of heart's-ease and contented joy.

Peter Pindar.

Doctor Walcot's writings were very productive. Those who condemned his satire purchased his works to laugh at his wit. An old acquaintance once remarked when the doctor offered him his hand, that he hardly knew how to take it, he felt so angry with him for abusing the king. "Pooh, pooh!" said Peter, "I bear no ill-will to his majesty—God bless him! I believe him to be a very good man; but I must write upon the characters that the world are interested in reading about; I would abuse you, but I should not get any thing for it!" Walcot always declared that the booksellers had been cheating him publicly for years, and that at last he got the best of them by stratagem. He had offered to sell his copy-right of all his works for a life-annuity. The negociation took place in the month of November, and the doctor always appointed the evening for the time of meeting the booksellers. He had an habitual cough, and walking out in the evening fog increased it. When he arrived at the place of his destination he could never speak until he had taken a full glass of brandy, and then remarked, "That it made little difference what the annuity was, as it would soon be all over with him." They were of the same opinion. The bargain was made. "And," continued Peter, "after I mixed water with my brandy, the spring came on, and I lost my cough." This always pleased him to the end of a very lengthened life; and after he had signed the very last receipt, he observed, "He was sure they had wished him dead long ago, and he should have done the same had he been in their place." Having called upon a bookseller in Paternoster Row to inquire after his own works, he was asked to take a glass of wine. Dr. Walcot consented to accept of a little negus, as an innocent morning beverage, which was instantly presented to him in a cocoa-nut goblet, with the face of a man carved on it. "Eh, eh!" says the doctor, "what have we here?" "A man's skull," replied the bookseller, "a poet's, for what I know." "Nothing more likely," rejoined the facetious doctor, "for it is universally known that all booksellers drink wine from our skulls."

Sonnets.

BY PARK BENJAMIN.

I

What marvel is it that, in other lands
  And ancient days, men worshipped the divine
  And brilliant majesty of stars that shine
Pure in their lofty spheres, like angel-bands—
With a deep reverence, when evening came
  With her high train of shadows, have I bowed
Beneath the Heaven, as each new-lighted flame
  Glowed in the sapphire free from mist or cloud
A holy presence seemed to fill the air;
  Invisible spirits, such as live in dreams,
  Came floating down on their celestial beams,
And from my heart then rose a silent prayer.
What marvel, then, that men of yore could see
In each bright star a glorious Deity!

II

Dost thou remember, friend, the rude, wild place
  We visited together long ago?
  The mountains with their diadems of snow;
The valleys robed in verdure at their base;
The broad, strong river which the eye could trace
  Forcing through broken rocks its silver speed,
  Till, on the open plain, like courser freed
It dashed and bounded in exulting race;
The clump of woods, the hermitage, the spire,
That in the sunrise glittered like a fire,
To guide the traveller to the distant town—
  The narrow, winding road, the ruin grey
That once a castle was, of old renown—
  Sight of past years! it seems of yesterday.

Silence on the Deep.

Never can any of that stunning silence, when leaves and winds are sleeping, be found on the sea—the waves are whispering like the voices of ten thousand little flutes in the stillest time, the music of a soft murmur under the stern of the vessel, and yet all this makes a silence pleasant as that which is mixed with the sound of distant birds on a balmy morning in summer, when the cool dawn is just coming up in the east. But what gives the character of great silence and loneliness is that you hear no voice from a distance, at sea in a calm. These gentle murmurs are close at hand, and an unbroken silence hangs over all the space beyond. During a storm, the sounds coming equally from all points of the surrounding waves, their clashing gives but the notion of a confused murmur of which the nearest circle shuts out the whole raving mass beyond it from the ear. But once we thought of a bright moonlight night, the wind caressing the ship and bounding her merrily on, that we could distinguish a voice that often breaks in upon silence and startles her, as under night's dark cloak she would renew the primeval sway. There was a voice like the distant bark of the watch-dog; it swelled upon the ear as if the wind had been dallying with it, and then rose sharp and clear. How that sound broke in like a ray of light recalling old associations—and, after all, to be informed that this was but the swaying of the top-mast, collected in the belly of the sail, and deflected as in a whispering gallery to the quarter-deck.

Independence Hall.

On descending from the steeple, we took our last look at the room in which the Declaration of Independence of the United States was signed, on the 4th of July, 1776, when the great bell of the State House fulfilled the injunction of the motto cast on it before it was sent out from England, "Proclaim liberty throughout the land, unto all the inhabitants thereof," from Leviticus, chap. xxv. v. 10. This bell, though no longer used for general purposes, still occupies the place in which it was originally hung, and, like the great bell of St. Paul's in London, is used only on very special occasions; such as the anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, the visit of any distinguished personage—Lafayette, for instance, on whose arrival, at his last visit, it called the people together to do him honor, as one of the heroes of the revolutionary war; and it will, no doubt, be preserved as a national treasure for centuries yet to come. In the Declaration room, as it is called, we saw a beautiful full length portrait of William Penn, in his simple Quaker garb, with a countenance full of benevolence, holding in his hand a scroll, containing the treaty with the Indians for the sale of their lands; and in the back ground was placed the great elm-tree under which the treaty was agreed to, with several Indian chiefs in their native costume. A full length portrait of General Lafayette, taken during his last visit to America, served as a companion to this, and a small bust portrait of Washington was placed between; while at the opposite side of the room, facing the spectators as they enter, is a fine full length statue of this idol of all American hearts, done in wood by Rush, executed with great spirit, and said to be a most faithful copy of the great original. It stands on a pedestal, on which is the following inscription, written in letters of gold: "First in war, first in peace, and first in the hearts of his countrymen."—*Buckingham.*

Song.

Love me if I live!
  Love me if I die!
What to me is life or death,
  So that thou be nigh!

Once I loved thee rich,
  Now I love thee poor;
Ah! what is there I could not
  For thy sake endure!

Kiss me for my love!
  Pay me for my pain!
Come and murmur in my ear
  How thou lov'st again.

Riches and Poverty.

A man without a penny has yet what all the wealth in the world cannot purchase—the human form and the human nature. With these, if he has health and resolution, he may become anything, except what can be reached only by innate genius or a higher order of mental gifts than his own. Give him education, you make him a scholar; breeding, you train him a gentleman; religion and morality, and you fill him with the sentiments of a Christian. Let no one say, the poor scholar or the poor gentleman is hurt by his education and manners. Pride often distorts those characters, but they ought to be above pride. A cultivated mind, so far from being trammelled by a narrow income, flies beyond it, and taste the quality of the fine intellect is a faculty of selection. The wisest economy is the nicest taste. Profusion is tasteless. A man of fine judgment and small income will actually live in a more genteel style, than a rich, coarse minded nabob. He may have fewer articles of expense, but they will be choice and delicate. His style of living will be frugal, yet elegant; which is more pleasing than extravagance without judgment. A genteel taste in living, eschews extravagance, pomp, and all superfluity, as essentially vulgar. There is not a more pitiful sight than a mean spirited man in a splendid house. His soul is too small for it. On the other hand, the great heart cannot be contained within the most magnificent palace, and yet, may content itself in the most humble mansion. The great and good poor man in his modest and retired parlor, affords a nobler spectable than a king or a pyramid.

Distrust.

There was a shadow on his face, that spake
Of passions long since hardened into thought.
He had a smile, a cold and scornful smile;
Not gaiety, not sweetness, but the sign
Of feelings moulded at their master's will
A weary world was hidden at that heart;
Sorrow and strife were there, and it had learnt
The wary lessons time and sorrow teach;
And deeply felt itself the vanity
Of love and hope, and now could only feel
Distrust in them and mockery for those
Who could believe in what he knew was vain.

The Visible and Invisible.

This visible world in all its manifold variety and unceasing changes is but a symbol of the invisible. It is not merely a type, for this is but a likeness or model. A symbol is more; it is not only a strict resemblance and type, but it contains the thing typified. Thus any individual man is not only a type of the human race, but he is its appropriate symbol, as having in himself that common humanity which is reproduced in thousands of others, and exists in each and all. So not only does the appearance of this world typify and resemble the Unseen, but could we look through the illusive show of things, we should behold that, till then, invisible creation itself. When we look upon the outward world, in the words of Holy Writ, we "see through a glass darkly;" the vision is obscured by a darkness, truly Egyptian to the prosaic man, but whose gloom can be dispelled by the magic powers of poesy. The man, whose soul is wrapped up in the vain cares and deceitful pleasures of the world, whose heart is corroded by the rust of worldly thoughts, and whose feelings are deadened by the influences of custom and self-indulgence, cannot look beyond the present and the obvious.

"In vain through every changeful year
Does nature lead him as before;
A primrose by a river's brim
A yellow primrose is to him,
And it is nothing more."

On the Premature Death of a Beautiful Girl.

Peace to thy broken heart and virgin grave!
Ah!—happy!—but of life to lose the worst!
That grief, though deep—though fatal, was thy first!
Thrice happy! ne'er to feel, or fear the force
Of absence, shame, pride, hate, revenge, remorse
And that dread pang, where more than madness lies
The worm that will not sleep, and never dies;
That winds around and tears the quivering heart!
Ah! wherefore not consume it and depart?

The Literary Life.

The literary life is never so happily spent, as in a condition of moderate competence and in the enjoyment of social happiness. The wealthy scholar, even if a man of genius, is obliged, from the nature of his position, and to avoid the scandal of meanness, or the odium of an unsociable disposition, to live in a manner abhorrent to his tastes and literary habits. He must live splendidly, when he would prefer elegance and quiet; he must entertain the indifferent and the inquisitive, where he had rather be surrounded by the chosen friends of his youth. In a word, the rich scholar must live like a mere rich man, and is in danger of sinking the first character in the second. Wealth has obscured genius, which would have been drawn out by exertion; at least as often as talent has been obscured by misfortune.

Pursuit of Pleasure.

We smile at the ignorance of the savage who cuts down the tree in order to reach the fruits; but the fact is, that a blunder of this description is made by every person who is over eager and impatient in the pursuit of pleasure. To such the present moment is as every thing, and the future is nothing; he borrows, therefore, from the future, at a most usurious and ruinous interest; and the consequence is, that he finds the tone of his best feelings impaired, his self-respect diminished, his health of mind and body destroyed, and life reduced to its very dregs, at a time when, humanely speaking, the greatest portion of its comforts should be still before him.

Juvenile Department.

Written for the Saturday Evening Post

Geographical Enigma.

ACROSTICAL.

I am composed of 13 letters
My 1, 5, 9, 10, is a town in Columbiana Co. Ohio
My 2, 12, 7, 13, is a county in Indiana
My 3, 5, 4, 7, is a town in Genesee Co. N. Y.
My 4, 5, 11, 13, is a town in Mexico
My 5, 8, 8, 7, 4, is a town in Coos Co. N. H.
My 6, 7, 13, 10, 11, 12, is a town in [illegible] Co. Me.
My 7, 13, 11, is a river of N. C.
My 8, 11, 9, 7, is a town in Stark Co. Ohio
My 9, 2, 4, 11, 13, is a town in Cortlandt Co. N. Y.
My 10, 7, 10, 2, 13, is a river in La.
My 11, 8, 12, 7, 4, 4, is a village in Bradford Co. Pa.
My 12, 7, 9, 10, 2, 13, is a town and capital of Lewis Co. Va.
My 13, 7, 12, 10, 11, 13, is a town in Delaware Co. Pa.

My whole is the name of a village in Berks Co. Pennsylvania. A solution is requested.   CYRUS DONATHAN.

Written for the Saturday Evening Post

Enigma.

I am composed of 14 letters
My 7, 12, 6, 12, 4, 3, is a lake in Europe
My 11, 5, 11, 12, is a musical instrument
My 11, 12, 2, 3, is a river in South Carolina
My 3, 2, 8, 12, is much used by Gardeners
My 9, 2, 6, 8, 10, 6, 7, is a city in China
My 2, 1, 3, 12, is a quantity of land
My 10, 4, 5, 1, 2, is an island in the Mediterranean
My 12, 7, 7, is that which when broken can't be mended
My 12, 3, 5, 12, is a county in New York

And my whole may always be seen at the dinner table. A solution is requested.   H. S. S.

Waynesboro' Classical Institute, Dec. 22nd, 1841.

Farmers Department.

Corn and Cob Crusher.

The increased enquiry relative to, and demand for this valuable machine, renders it proper for us to give all the information in our power as to the practical operation of those manufactured in our city. For this purpose we will cheerfully lend our columns to the publication of statements from gentlemen of known respectability and good judgment, (as is that given below) of the value, efficiency and power of their operation. We invite other gentlemen who have purchased machines in this city, to follow the example of our neighbor, Captain Dungan, and forward us their disinterested testimony, in order that their brother farmers may know what they may reasonably except to receive in the purchase of one of these machines. We have recently forwarded one of Hussey's to Dr. Gwathmey, of Aylett's, V. another to Hugh Lawson, Esq. Hawkinsville, Geo. and another to A. Hargrave, Esq. [with a Durham and a Devon heifer, &c. via the steamboat to Petersburg, and railroad to Raleigh, which we hope will arrive safe and in good order] —we also learn that Messrs Sinclair, jr. and Co. have forwarded a number to Hampshire county, and other parts of Virginia, and we have no doubt any of these gentlemen will take pleasure in exhibiting the same to their neighbors.

In publishing the letter of Captain D. we would only add, that we hope the experience of one so competent to judge of the value of this plan of feeding, will induce others to follow his excellent example, and economise their grain as he has done.

SURRY FARM, December 22, 1841.

SAMUEL SANDS, Esq.—*Dear Sir*:—Some time in November last, I purchased one of Mr. Hussey's Cast Iron Mills, constructed to grind corn and cob together; I am gratified to say, it has more than answered my expectations.

I have ground probably one hundred and fifty bushels for my horses, and find it to grind sufficiently fine for all purposes of feeding, at about the rate of eight and a half to nine bushels per hour with three horses. It has one peculiar good quality, which I have never seen in any other Mill constructed for the like purpose.

It is well known that the cob contains near the heart or pith, a hard flat substance, which I have never seen made sufficiently fine for horses feed by any other machine, and have always been deterred from purchasing one of these desirable saving machines on that account. The above named machine, grinds all that part sufficiently fine for all purposes of feeding, and in fact as fine as brown stuff or bran.

This machine will save me in grinding at least sixty dollars per annum, without calculating the cost and time of sending to mill. I should almost be afraid to state what I think the saving to a farmer would be by the application of this highly useful machine.

Suppose a farmer feeding in the year five hundred bushels of corn—we calculate the nutriment from the cob will be one-third of the amount of corn used, which will increase his food for stock, say one hundred and sixty-six bushels, making this much entire gain, all of which can be done in the time it would take to shell with a patent corn sheller, the same amount of bushels. In using heretofore chopt corn for horses, I have thought it necessary to purchase brown-stuff and mix therewith, to give a more healthy action to the food. It is generally conceded, that corn fed to horses alone was indigestible; the cob ground with the corn obviates the necessity of purchasing other food as a mixture, and has all the advantages of the above mode of feeding.

I have made an experiment with this machine to grind shelled corn for meal, and am under the impression, with care, one-third could be sifted out sufficiently fine for bread, provided the corn is dry and in good order. If these hasty remarks should be useful to the patentee or the feeder, I shall be much gratified: to Mr. Hussey, whose unwearied industry in constructing labor-saving machines, the farmer owes many and lasting obligations, and I hope his success will be in accordance with his untiring zeal.

I have recently purchased from Mr. Williams, in Light street, one of Mott's Patent Boilers; the saving in fuel in this boiler over any other mode that I have seen will be at least one-half. I have not had it sufficient time to test all its good qualities, but from what I have seen of its usefulness, I would recommend every feeder of cattle to procure one.   I remain, dear Sir,
Respectfully, yours,
ABEL S. DUNGAN.

Mr. Murray, whose establishment is some distance from town, has left in our charge one of his Crushers, which we will with pleasure exhibit to any gentleman who will call on us for that purpose.—*American Farmer.*

Keeping of Cows.

A writer in the Maine Farmer recommends that farmers should not keep too many cows, and cites a well attested instance in which *two* cows, by having the same quantity of food given them as had been previously given to *four*, had yielded considerably more butter, cheese, &c. than had been before obtained from double the number—that is, that the *two* upon extra feed had produced more than *four*. We can believe this statement, and believe with the writer also, that farmers should not keep more cows, or stock of any kind, than they *can keep well*, both as to food and shelter. It should be as much the business of a farmer to grow a full supply of winter provender for his stock, as it is to furnish them with summer pasture; and yet how many there are, who never dream of such a thing as setting a field with clover, or any of the artificial grasses, relying altogether upon the precarious resource of their corn-fields to carry their stock through the winter and early spring months. Nor do many of them pay proper attention to saving the provender from those quarters.—*American Far.*

Motherly Love.

Last among the characteristics of woman is that of the sweet motherly love with which nature has gifted her; it is almost independent of cold reason, and wholly removed from all selfish hope of reward. Not because it is lovely does the mother love her child, but because it is a living part of herself—the child of her heart, a fraction of her own nature. Therefore does her bosom yearn over his wailings, her heart beats quicker at his joy, her blood flows more softly through her veins when the breast at which he drinks knits him to her. In every uncorrupted nation of the earth this feeling is the same. Climate, which changes every thing else, changes not that. It is only the most corrupting forms of society which have power gradually to make luxurious vice sweeter than the tender cares and toils of maternal love. In Greenland, where the climate affords no nourishment for infants, the mother nourishes her child up to the third or fourth year of his life. She endures from him all the nascent indications of the rude and domineering spirit of manhood with indulgent, all-forgiving patience. The negress is armed with more than manly strength when her child is attacked by savage beasts. We read with astonished admiration the examples of her matchless courage and contempt of danger. But if death robs that tender mother, whom we are pleased to call a savage, of her best comfort—the charm and care of her existence—where is the heart that can conceive her sorrow? Read the lament of the Nadowassee woman on the loss of her husband and her infant son. The feeling which it breathes is beyond all expression.

Sunset at Sea.

A sunset at sea is not like a setting behind wooded mountains. It has not enough of the earth in it, as inhabited place, it is an eclipse of a portion of it as a heavenly body—it is too simple, with not enough of scenery. We would have smiling fields and houses to the east reflecting the last glance they catch, back to us; a wood upon the left, on the right a meadow, along which shadows seem to creep, and in front a tall hill, with every where traces of man and man's labor. Yet, still, when clouds gather round the setting sun, when they seem like giant figures in gold and purple, blue and crimson, and feathers appear to dance over their swart features, as they seize the burning brand and plunge it in the dark shadow of the ocean, we can call up all that has been written of the conclaves of demons or Cyclopian forges, and see the figures that might have been drawn on the easel of the poets' mind, and the forms he has translated into words. If the evening gives the idea of spirits and gigantic pictures of animation, the morning sun, from a brighter light gives the character of solidity to the clouds—rocks, mountains, or palaces of precious stones seem built up in the east, or else a vast and impenetrable mass of cold and chaotic appearance gives the emblem of a plastic spirit commencing upon rugged matter, and glancing once upon it before the formative process shall be commenced.

A Winter Evening.

What a pleasure it is on a cold wintry evening, when the snow is falling fast, to sit by a blazing fire, and listen to the crackling of the wood, and the flickering of the flame, while the whistle of the wind is deadened into a stifled sigh by the heavy snow drift—while we watch the glowing embers, and from their varying and fantastic forms, conjure up a thousand images of enchanted land, castles and knights, genii and griffins, recalling all the Arabian lore, and those delightful fairy tales, in which our boyish hearts delighted. Burning coffins with the ashes of the dead, miniature rocks o'ergrown with dusty moss, and images of fields of molten lava, all rise in strange conjunction. The hour that of all others I would choose is twilight; that hour, when after the excitement of the day, the soul seems to retire within itself to collect its energies anew for the strife. The snow reflects the red evening sunbeams, and combines with the glare of the fire to cast an uncertain and fitful light around the room. The gloom conceals the nakedness, the dirty floor and bare walls of a college apartment, and we are left to enjoy the cheerful warmth within, and the security from the cold storm that rattles without against the window pane for admittance.

A GRAVE MAID.—There is an old maid out West so tough and wrinkled, that they use her forehead to grate nutmegs on.

A NEW VOLUME.

January, 1842.

GRAHAM'S LADY'S AND GENTLEMAN'S MAGAZINE,

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is unanimous in the announcement, that no work ever started in the country has been so elegantly embellished, or has so rapidly increased. For the new volume, the most extensive arrangements have been made, with the most distinguished artists in the country for a supply of elegant embellishments of all sorts.

Our Beautiful Mezzotint Engravings.

It affords us much satisfaction to be able to state that we have made arrangements with Mr. SARTAIN, the accomplished mezzotint engraver, whose plates have contributed so much to the beauty of the magazine heretofore, by which we secure *his splendid mezzotints for this work alone.* No other magazine of this kind can have them *without permission from us.*

In addition to these we have secured the burin of another talented mezzotint engraver, H. S. Sadd, Esq. of N. Y. that there may be no disappointment as to *number* or *regularity.* These will be equal to any thing published, so that we are able confidently to promise

A MEZZOTINT IN EVERY NUMBER.

These beautiful engravings will therefore form a *feature of Graham's Magazine,* in every number, so that we shall be able to distance any thing like competition on this ground. These plates are the most expensive that can be got up for a magazine of large circulation, in consequence of the great price of printing—*being more than double that of line engravings*—and the necessity of redaplicating the plates; our edition already rendering it necessary that two or three plates of the same subject must be prepared for every number in which they are used. We now print an edition greater than that of any cotemporary for the last year, and confidently assert that at the same rate of increase we shall issue in 1842, an edition of not less than

35,000 COPIES MONTHLY,

And shall soon have an edition unequalled in the history of magazine publishing.

OUR SPLENDID STEEL ENGRAVINGS.

We have also entered into a distinct and permanent arrangement with Rawdon, Wright, Hatch & Smillie, and with A. L. Dick, Esq. of N. Y. for a series of splendid engravings *to be got out in a style unsurpassed by any that have ever been done in this country.* The wide spread fame of these artists is a sufficient guarantee of the character of the work we shall receive from their hands. So that with such an organization, we may safely defy competition in the way of embellishments, show the world

A Pattern for Others to Follow

in the way of liberal and judicious expenditure, and fix a new era in the history of magazine publishing in this country.

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RICHLY COLORED FASHIONS.

In compliance with the almost unanimous wish of our lady subscribers, we shall furnish them with a beautiful and correct plate of FASHIONS, and shall also give the style, for gentlemen, which has been decidedly popular with both sexes, and has rendered the work THE TEXT BOOK OF FASHION, the Union over.

GREAT INCREASE OF READING MATTER.

The reputation of the Magazine thus far, would be a sufficient guarantee for the future, but that it may be seen that nothing has been left undone, to maintain every department of the work, and to elevate the literary, as well as the pictorial department, we beg leave to announce that we have not only engaged a host of talented and elegant American writers, but that the amount of reading matter will be greatly increased, so as to make it at least *one fourth,* and possibly *one-third more* than any of the other three dollar magazines, and about the same amount as the *five dollar* monthlies usually present.

THE LIST OF CONTRIBUTORS.

In addition to the old contributors, whose names and articles have given a high celebrity to the Magazine, a number of new ones, it will be perceived, are added, of worth and note, so that we may fairly say that we have

The Strength of American Talent Enlisted in the Work.

Theodore S. Fay, Author of "Norman Leslie, the Countess Ida," &c.	H. Hastings Weld.
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Mrs. Ann S. Stephens.	Samuel W. Stockton, Philadelphia.
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John S. Du Solle, Esq.	A. M'Makin and F. Holden, Esqrs. Eds. Sat. Courier.
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Professor Ingraham, Author of La Fitte.	Charles W. Thompson.
Professor John Frost, Philadelphia.	J. H. Dana.
Professor N. C. Brooks, Baltimore.	A. A. Irvine.
Morton McMichael, Esq. Philadelphia.	

In addition to this brilliant array of names known to fame, the distinguished services of a host of anonymous writers of no ordinary abilities will give worth and character to the pages of the Magazine. The series of the well known nautical papers entitled "Cruising in the Last War," and "The Reefer of '76," have had a run unequalled by any series published in any Magazine for years. The author promises to open a new series of

TALES OF THE SEA.

And from his known abilities as a depictor of sea scenes and life, much may be relied upon from him in maintaining the popularity of the Magazine. Papers may be expected during the volume also, from the author of the well known articles entitled "The Log of Old Ironside," beside a variety of choice articles in prose and verse, from various writers of celebrity, as Contributors to the prominent Magazines of the country.

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The critical department shall still form a distinctive character of the work, and is under the control of a gentleman of critical acumen and repute long established, and held every where second to none for sagacity, and an honest, fearless independence.

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